

September 20, 2019

Dear Parents,

This has been a challenging week for many students. Many are fighting colds or just don't feel well. Some have missed a day and then come back for a day and then out again. It is just hard for everyone. Hopefully with the warm weather this weekend we can open up windows and get things aired out so the germs are gone. We are really trying to encourage hand washing often.

We are really still establishing routines and learning about each other during our day. We are doing this through our Listening Larry (Whole Body Listening) book which we finished this week. We will continue to look back at it and do some activities with it next week. We also start our day with a song to learn how to greet each other. This week it was: We're So Glad You Came to Play. We also are doing an activity to help the students make a choice. This week it was: My Favorite Game. (It could be the choice of any favorite color, cookies, ice cream, movies, etc.). The last activity during our morning meeting is playing a quick game. This week it was: Jolly Jump Up. I have random numbers on cards(this could be letters, shapes or simple words) and there is a card that says jolly jump up which the students jump up followed by a card that says slowly sit down which they sit down slowly. These will change each week, but we will also generate a list and pull favorites off the list every once in a while.

In number corner we are working on the different shapes and notice how they are arranged on our calendar. We are also learning about what numbers look like using our math hands. An example might be the different ways you can make 2, 3, 4 and 5 using your math hands. We also add a link, dot to a ten frame and number each day to our number corner. They are very interested in numbers and learning more about them.

We continue to look and notice things. We took off 5 shoes this week from different students and sorted them in different ways. It was amazing what they noticed and how they sorted them. This is new language for some of the students. When you have a chance try taking some shoes out of the closet and have them sort them. It is amazing and fun to hear their thinking and the math language that is there. We also continue to explore the manipulatives during our math centers.

We learned about the letter 'b' this week and wrote it on whiteboards. We are still really working on learning about picking up pencils/markers/crayons and holding them correctly. We are also learning how to sit correctly at the table so our bodies don't become too tired. It is a lot to learn and we continue to support this throughout the year.

We also had to prepare for our apple picking trip. Thank you to so many sending in money for picking apples! There was a lot of information about the apples and the students really enjoyed picking enough apples to fill their bags, eating a fresh apple off the tree and seeing fresh apple cider being pressed. They also had an opportunity to step into a large cold storage room. We

are lucky that Mrs. Franklin allows us to come. I hope everyone enjoys making something with the apples that their child brought home.

The students had their first all school assembly, which is called FLEX block. Younger students are matched up with older students and become good buddies. This assembly meets once a month and Ms. Powers runs it. This month she covered bus safety and they practiced a bus evacuation drill which is necessary once each year.

I am sending home towels today to be washed this weekend.

The PTA is sending home two fundraisers. Please consider supporting these if you are able to. The money supports doing extra things for our students.

Keep those box tops coming!

If for some reason your child missed today the picture retake day is on November 8.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 10: PTA 6:30

Oct. 14: No School for students- Inservice Day for Teachers

Oct. 18: Free Movie Night at WRS- watch for more details

Nov. 4: Early Release- Parent/Teacher Conferences

Nov. 5: No School for students- Parent/Teacher Conferences

Have a great weekend and enjoy the great weather!