

January 10, 2020

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! The children seemed rested and ready to be back with us at school. They were excited to see everyone as I was too. Hopefully it was a relaxing break for everyone once you got through the holiday.

In our Second Step lessons we are focusing on feelings. We talked about surprised, interested, and afraid/scared. We reinforce that we need to look at people's faces and bodies to know how they are feeling. We continue to notice and comment on how people are looking and feeling so they are hearing this language around our room.

During our Morning Meeting we have been learning about sharing with sentences. We first share a topic sentence (green bear), then three supporting details about that topic (yellow bears) and lastly we have a concluding statement (red bear). After we share we put the bear in a jar. They enjoy this and we have done it orally as a group this week. We will eventually work towards each student sharing this way. It helps to keep them focused and on topic. This will also help with writing down the road as it is preparing for writing paragraphs later on.

We have not been doing our math groups this week as we will be reassessing all of the students so we will know where and what we need to work on next. New groups will begin in a couple of weeks. We are still doing math through Number Corner and math centers.

We have been reviewing in Foundations this week and I have also been doing a mid-unit check-in. They are doing very well with their letter identification and sound knowledge. Writing the letters correctly is still a challenge for them, so we will continue to work on this. It is tricky going from the whiteboards we use to paper. I also have had them practice writing their names using lowercase letters. As I see students ready to write their last name I will introduce this as well.

Our new literacy groups began this week after doing the assessment in December. We have students reading, writing, and working on snap words/letters. They are all excited when we are doing these groups.

In Readers Workshop, I introduced a way for the students to learn their snap words which are words they should know automatically in books. They are excited to put their capes on and get to work with their reading bags. It is so fun to watch them learning with their superpowers!

I am sending home a new book order today. Our code is GXJYC. I will send the order in on Friday, January 24. Remember, you can order online or send in your order.

Please look at the flyer for the STEAM club for K-2 that will be coming next week. It sounds like a great experience and has limited spots.

I am sending home a permission slip for students to go with a student in our class to OT. They would be going as a peer model. Please sign this form and return to me as soon as possible. You should return the form if you want your child to be a part of this program or not. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Upcoming Events

Jan. 20 & 21: No school for students

Jan. 24: Book Order

Feb 13: Jungle Book show (see flyer included) 5:30, PTA 6:30

Feb. 17-21: Winter Break

March 3: No school for students, Town Voting Day

Have a great weekend and enjoy these warm temperatures for January!