

Peek At The Week

Miss Peartree

Mrs. Zanello

October 2, 2011

I hope everyone had a great weekend. It is hard to believe that October is here already, but we did begin to see signs of the changing seasons the last couple days. As we move into fall, we will spend a lot of time observing nature and discussing the changes that we see during this season. The children used their five senses to create lists of fall things. We also read several books about fall. One of our favorites was Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf by Lois Ehlert. On Friday, the children participated in fall-themed centers. They read a Weekly Reader magazine entitled "Fall Is Here," danced like fall leaves with nature sounds in the background, and painted beautiful fall leaves with watercolors to make our Fall Class Quilt.

The first Travelling Book went home last week. Throughout the year, I will be sending home these collaborative class books. When it is your child's turn to take home a Travelling Book, please read it together that night. Then, write a message to our class in the Travelling Book Journal giving us your thoughts on our work. Please return the Travelling Book the following day and we will share your message at our Morning Meeting. The children are all excited for their turn to take home one of our special books!

In Readers' Workshop, we concluded our study of David Shannon by discussing our favorite books and what we liked about each of his books. The children have continued to practice reading independently. This time in our classroom is invaluable. Not only are the children developing good habits and spending time investigating books, but I am also able to work with the children individually and in small groups. This is the best way for me to get to know them as readers and help them develop literacy skills. The children also made two new books for their book baskets. One is an ABC book with words beginning with each letter of the alphabet. This is helpful to the children, as we have been learning to identify beginning sounds in words. The other book focused on our new sight word "the." In Writers' Workshop, the students began sharing personal narratives. Each day, a few children are chosen to share a favorite memory or interesting experience with the class. They all have wonderful, interesting stories to tell! They are quickly understanding how to turn any seemingly ordinary event into an exciting story using the right language and expression. I have really enjoyed listening to their stories, and this is a great way for us to learn more about each other. In math, we've continued to practice counting, one-to-one correspondence, and printing numbers.

In religion, we read our first *Promise* magazine. We used Sunday's gospel to discuss the importance of making good choices. On Friday, we prayed at Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel. Each week, we also have a "class anti-bullying meeting," where we discuss issues related to kindness, compassion, and empathy. Last week, we discussed the importance of courage. We read Tyrone The Horrible and the children identified things that the characters in the story did to show courage when being bullied. We also read Have You Filled A Bucket? by Carol McCloud. I was very happy to share this book with the children. It is all about making ourselves and others happy by being kind. Through this book, the children have learned that a "bucket-filler" is someone who shares happiness by being kind, while a "bucket-dipper" is someone who tries to steal from your bucket by doing unkind things. I love this book because it explains kindness and bullying in ways that young children can understand. The children all shared kind things that they have done to make others happy. I see many of them helping to keep their friends' buckets full by saying and doing kind things! See if your child can tell you something that he/she did to be a "bucket-filler" this week!

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Library Books

K-1's Library check-out day will be on Day 3. Children should return their Library books by the next Day 3 so that they may take out a new book. If you forget, books may also be returned on Day 4. If your child would like to keep his/her book for another week, please return it to school so that he/she can check it out again. Thank you!

Open House

Open House will be held next Thursday, October 6th at 7 p.m. This will be an opportunity to meet me, discuss the curriculum, and see the classroom. There will also be sign-up sheets for room mothers, mystery readers, and other things you can do to help our class. Please do not bring your child, this is a night for you! I hope to see you there!

Uniform Reminder

As of October 1st...

- Boys must wear blue dress shirts and ties.
- Girls may wear blue dress pants and a blouse instead of the plaid jumper.
- P.E. shorts may no longer be worn.

Number Rock

(by Greg and Steve)

1, 2	1, 2
3, 4	3, 4
5, 6, 7	5, 6, 7
8, 9, 10	8, 9, 10
11, 12	11, 12
13, 14	13, 14
15, 16, 17	15, 16, 17
18, 19, 20	18, 19, 20

Let's go, we're doing
the number rock!

Recess

We will continue to go outside for recess, unless it is raining. Please make sure that your child dresses appropriately.



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