



# Kindergarten Happenings

## From the Teacher's Desk



### Conferences

If you have not signed up for a conference time, please contact your child's teacher. The conference dates are Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Open House

You are invited to come into our classrooms on Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to observe your child's learning.

## Matsunaga Elementary October 2009

### Dates to Remember:

- ◆ Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>  
9:30—10:30 Mother Goose Visit
- ◆ Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>  
9:00—12:00 Open House
- ◆ Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>  
MSTA Teachers Convention  
No School for Students
- ◆ Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>  
9:30—10:30 or 12:30—1:30  
Firefighter Visit



### Volunteers

A letter will be coming home soon to inform you of the dates when volunteer training will occur. You will be asked to return the paper indicating when you can come to training.

Volunteering occurs in many ways: in the classroom, outside of the classroom, at home, and as a room parent. Room parents help the teachers with the Halloween and Valentine parties.

We thank you for the help you will be giving to the kindergarten program.

### Fire Prevention Month

October is Fire Prevention Month. The students will have a visit from the Germantown Fire Department on Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:30—10:30 or 12:30—1:30. They will see a presentation on fire safety and will even get to see a real fire truck!

### Contact Information

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## Math News

### Sorting

*How many different ways can you sort the same set of objects?*

This is something we are asking your kindergarteners to do at school. Additional reinforcement at home will help complete your child's understanding. After your child has sorted objects, here are some questions you can ask:

- Can you sort in a different way?
- What is your rule for sorting these objects? (How are they all the same?)
- Can you explain your thinking?

The following is a list of literature to provide meaningful connections to the sorting concepts:

- Is It Red? Is It Yellow? Is It Blue? An Adventure in Color by Tana Hoban
- Is It Rough? Is It Smooth? Is It Shiny? by Tana Hoban
- A String of Beads by Margarett Reid
- The Button Box by Margarett Reid
- A House is a House for Me by Mary Ann Hoberman
- More or Less A Mess (Hello Math Reader—Level 2) by Sheila Keenan
- Hats Hats Hats by Ann Morris
- Shoes Shoes Shoes by Ann Morris
- My First Look at Sorting by Stephen Oliver

### Patterns

Patterns are everywhere! Can you find them on signs, on your clothes, in sounds and in numbers?







## Science News

Our first science unit is about Weather. With weather as the theme, the students are learning to make and describe observations, describe changes that occur, develop awareness of events that can impact daily activities such as rain creating the need for indoor recess, observe and describe patterns, and collect data. Studying weather is motivating for our students and offers real life connections. We are all enjoying this unit.

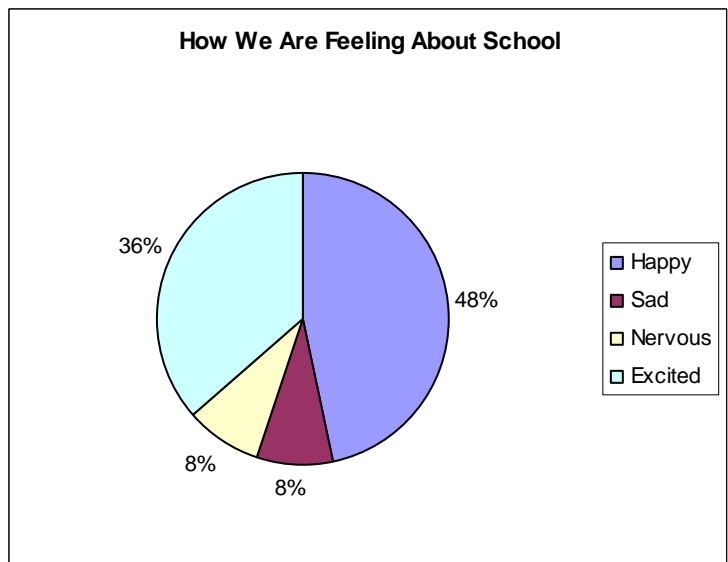
## Media Center

We encourage your child to keep their library book for a minimum of 2-3 days. During that time, consider setting different purposes for reading the book such as:

-  Favorite characters;
-  Beginning, middle, and end;
-  Finding letters or words that you recognize;
-  Identifying the setting (time and place).

**Book exchange days are Tuesday and Thursday**

Kindergarten students were asked how they were feeling about school on the first day of school and again on September 30. The children responded to the question on a consensagram. They were asked to choose between happy, sad, nervous, and excited. They placed a sticker or dot above the word that named their feeling. Here are the results of the September 30th survey. We are happy to see that so many of our children are happy and excited about school and that there are very few that feel nervous or sad.



Happy Birthday to our friends who are celebrating a birthday  
in the month of October:

Ishan	10/1	Jordan	10/8	Annabel	10/21
Daniel	10/2	Katie	10/13	Derek	10/25
Fynn	10/2	Cameron	10/14	Taryn	10/29
Alexis	10/8	Ava	10/20	Derick	10/30
Eileen	10/8	Haley	10/20	Tinaye	10/30