

Kindergarten December Newsletter 2011



Just a few reminders:

*Your child's homework should be returned to school every Monday. Please also complete the Monthly Family Affair Homework with your child.

*December is a chilly month. Please remember to send your child to school in appropriate clothing.

*Stay informed about Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) closing days. You can get information about school closings from the MCPS website or a local television station.

What we are doing in Math:

We are working on our second math unit. This unit explores reasons why learning about numbers is necessary. The children are counting using 1 to 1 correspondence with whole numbers. We will discuss the concept of odd and even numbers. It is important to reinforce these concepts throughout the year.

What you could do at home:

Take your child to the grocery store and allow them to count out how many items you need.

What we are learning in Social Studies/ Science:

We will begin to explore science and social studies through our units called-Weather and Our World. These are inquiry-based, hands-on curriculums that are designed to create science and social studies learners out of your children.

What you could do at home:

Have your child talk about the weather each day and explore the clouds. Help them explore the world around them.

What we are doing in Reading:

The children continue to make steady progress in their guided reading groups. They are beginning to use many decoding strategies to read leveled text.

What you could do at home:

Help your child read the books that we are sending home. Practice the words that we send home with the books.

What we are doing in Writing:

We continue to write in our journals everyday. The journal that the students complete on Friday stays at school as a portfolio.

What you could do at home:

Please read the comments that are written in the comment section to see if there is anything that your child should be working on at home.

Counselor Corner

A child who is academically motivated wants to learn, likes learning related activities, and believes school is important. We want to help children develop a desire to do well in school because the children believe that learning is important and rewarding in their lives. There are many things that parents can do to increase their child's motivation to learn. Keeping good parent-child relationships and letting your child know that you think school is important can enhance academic effort. You can also help by teaching your child good study habits and providing recognition for his or her successes. Working with your child's teacher as a partner is important also. The following list may help you to teach habits that encourage learning:

- Have a set routine for school work.
- Set up a study space with needed supplies and as much quiet as necessary.
- Make sure that school work is finished before doing things that distract from this task.
- Show your child that you respect his or her teacher. Don't handle disagreement with the teacher in front of your child.
- Talk regularly with the teacher so each of you knows what is going on at home and in school.
- Develop a system to provide reinforcement (verbal or otherwise) for working hard at school.
- Work together with your child's teacher to make sure your child learns good study habits.

Dates To Remember:

December 5-9	Scholastic Book Fair
December 15 th	Holiday Concert- 7:00-8:30 p.m.
December 24 th	
January 2 nd	Winter Break
January 3	Return to school

Kindergarten Team: Ms. Milgram, Ms. Bisogno, Ms. Lawrence, Mrs. Mensah, Mrs. Sparacino, Ms. Lovejoy, and Ms. Green