We are done with our first month of Kindergarten, Yahoo!! It has been a busy month as we continue to adjust and learn classroom routines, TMES expectations, and curriculum material. The first few weeks we all miss home and have a case of the Kindergarten “blues.” But we are amazed at the progress each child has made as they transition into the full and rigorous days of school. We look forward to an exciting school year.

Please feel free to contact us if you have additional questions or concerns.

Kindergarten News

Snack
Please be sure to send your child to school with a snack EVERYDAY. Listed below are a few reminders and things to consider when packing your child’s snack.

- Label your child’s snack with their name and the word snack, i.e. “Sarah’s snack”
- Please keep their snack separate from their lunch box.
- If your child is buying lunch, please do not put their snack in a lunch box.
- Please send only one snack that is a reasonable amount of food for your child. Snack last approximately ten minutes in each class before students have to put away and/or throw away their remaining snack. Please take this into consideration when you are deciding how much snack to pack for your child.

Thank you for taking the time to make these accommodations when packing your child’s snack. This helps us to keep snack time and classroom disruptions to a minimum in order to maximize instructional time.
Curriculum Information

Reading

Our main lesson focus for the month of October is comprehension of nonfiction texts, identifying signs and symbols in nonfiction text. During this month we will also be focusing on safety, such as: fire safety, car and bus safety.

Word Work: will introduce the following sight words this month: like, to, can, we, will

Words we have already introduced: a, I, see, me, like, look, at.

Please frequently review these words with your child when reading at home.

"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn."
-Benjamin Franklin

Writing

Our focus for October will be writing notes: thank you notes, reminder notes and friendly notes. We will identify the parts of a note. While writing we will practice our handwriting and word stretching. In addition we will start to discuss using spaces between words.

When your child has homework involving writing, please encourage them to stretch the sounds and write what they hear. It is developmentally appropriate for them to use this word stretching technique and only have a few letter sounds at this point in the year.

Math

We have been sorting objects by color, size, shape, and other distinguishing features.

This month we will make tally marks when counting objects or responses to a question. As we continue to use this skill, students will begin to graph information and analyze the data using words such as greater than, less than and equal to.

Towards the middle of October we will begin our focus on patterning. Students will be able to create and identify patterns and the pattern unit. We will also continue to focus on counting and writing numbers 0-20. Students who are able and ready to count further will be encouraged to do so.
Social Studies & Science

Social Studies focus during the month of October:
- U.S. Symbols
- Martin Luther King Jr.
- Rosa Parks
- Father of our country

Science focuses during the month of October:
- Rain
- Wind
- Seasons
- Water Cycle

Suggestions for Success

- Spend a few minutes each week reviewing alphabet letters and word wall words so your child begins to readily recognize all letters and word wall words. Search for letters/words in books and magazines and use them to write sentences.
- Have your child practice tying their own shoes and zipping their own jacket.
- Have your child practice writing their name with only 1 capital letter and all the rest of the letters lowercase.
- Have your child practice cutting with their thumb up and using their opposite hand to rotate the paper.

Looking Ahead:
November Dates to Remember

- November 5- No School Professional Day
- November 6- No School Election Day
- November 12- Early Release 1:00 p.m. -Parent Conferences
- November 13- Early Release- 1:00 p.m. Parent Conferences
- November 21- Early Release- 1:00 p.m. Thanksgiving
Parent/ Teacher Conferences

Parent teacher conferences will take place on November 12th and 13th. If you did not have an opportunity to schedule your parent conference time during back-to-school night, please contact your child’s teacher. We will send out reminders prior to the conference dates.

"Children are likely to grow up to what you believe in them."

-Lady Bird Johnson