



## TK Newsletter October 2017

### What's happening this month?

#### Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):

We have been focusing on friendship, listening skills, respecting personal space and conflict resolution. We are learning about listening to others and responding appropriately to their words. We are working on using "I feel \_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_" messages with each other at school. These are great skills to practice at home as well. This month, we are creating a feelings book and learning about labeling our emotions when we are upset.

**Science:** Oceans! We are immersed in learning about ocean plants and animals, the different ocean habitats around the world, food chains, the properties of water, adaptations and more! We are learning about non-fiction text, labeling diagrams and classifying groups of animals. This theme offers many scientific explorations and is loved by all.

**Math:** Over the past few week students have been focusing on recognizing different shapes: rhombus, hexagon, octagon, triangle, square, circle rectangle and more! We are learning about the attributes of different shapes and how to sort and label them. Number sense and counting are continued studies in TK. Practicing counting out loud up to 20 and also counting objects with one-to-one matching are great skills to practice at home. Count toys, beans, cereal, or anything that holds your child's interest. We have also been focused and counting on our fingers up to 10 and backwards to zero.

**Literacy:** Students have been practicing recognizing letters, the letter sounds and writing the letters with a variety of mediums. Rhyming words, reciting nursery rhymes, and reading predictable text are daily practices in TK.

Writing first names is an important skill that we practice a lot at school. I encourage everyone to practice this at home as well (using lowercase letters) in many fun ways: sidewalk chalk, writing in mud, cornmeal, sand, white boards, anything big, fun and often! Once they have mastered their first name, you should begin to practice last names and names of family members.

## Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conference week is October 23-27. Monday October 23 is a teacher work day, so students will have the day off. October 24-27 will be min. days with a 12:30 dismissal for the entire school. Please sign up for a conference online by using the link on our school website. I look forward to meeting with all of you to discuss your child, their assessments and progress in TK!

## Fall Garden Festival

The Garden Fest is on Wednesday October 18 from 2:30 - 3:30pm. Come shop to support our Woodside School Garden. Purchase hand-made items from each grade and enjoy [Riveropolis](#), a social play / science river. If you would like to help donate or sell items, please sign-up on our school website. TK will be selling smoothie popsicles and muffins.

## Halloween in TK

In TK, Halloween will be celebrated in our classroom on October 31<sup>st</sup> after our lunch and recess. Children can change into costumes before our party that will be fun-filled centers including bowling, games and crafts. If you would like to help during our party, or with supplies, please contact our room parents, Katie Williams and Avani Gupta.

## Marine Science Institute

### Friday, October 31st

Our first in-house "field trip" from Marine Science Institute will be at the end of the month. Instead of driving to their facility, they are going to be bringing the animals and lessons to us at school. Students will experience the joy of our bay and the plants and animals that call it home. The teachers at the institute will lead us through interactive centers including touching real local fish and observing some small sharks in a mobile aquarium.

They will be arriving at 9:00 a.m. and will wrap up by 11:00 in time for lunch at school. The Halloween fun will begin after our regular lunchtime.

For more information about the Marine Science Institute, check out the website at: [www. http://sfbaymsi.org/](http://sfbaymsi.org/)

## "Just In Case" Clothes

If you have not done so already, please send a change of clothes to school "just in case". Send a change of underwear, socks, pants and a T-shirt in a labeled, gallon Ziploc bag. This bag will be stored in the classroom bathroom for easy access.



### Achooo!

This week, our school nurse, Nurse Abbe, is coming to teach us about germs, washing hands and how to cover coughs and sneezes appropriately. We will also be making soap as a reminder of good hygiene. I remind students to wash their hands frequently in the classroom and to avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth. In light of the upcoming flu season, please be sure to keep your child home if he or she is sick. Students with flu-like symptoms must stay home at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever without the use of medications.

## TK Wish Lists

Donations of fruits and veggies have been highly successful so far! Getting through the mid-morning hunger with some nutritious snacks has made a huge difference in TK. Thanks for all of the donations so far. A sign-up list is by the door in the classroom if you are interested in helping out.

If you are interested in donating items to our classroom this year, I have created wish lists at [lakeshorelearning.com](http://lakeshorelearning.com) and on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com). Use these steps to find them:

-Amazon: Use this url: <http://a.co/hVmzmhR>

-Lakeshore: Go to [lakeshorelearning.com](http://lakeshorelearning.com), go to Customer Support on the bottom left side, click on wish lists and search for me by using my e-mail: [svirgallito@woodsideschool.us](mailto:svirgallito@woodsideschool.us)

-Scholastic Book Clubs: find a link to my wish list for books on the online ordering website

## Important Dates:

No School – Monday 10/23 Teacher Work Day

Minimum Days for Conferences 10/24–10/27