

Transitional Kindergarten News December 2017

December's theme in TK is all about winter and holidays. For language arts, we will be writing winter words and making mini-books about winter.

We continue to have daily practice in writing numbers and letters.

In math, we are focusing on counting by 5's and 10's, teen numbers and using ten frames. In social studies, we are learning about winter holidays around the world. In science, we are investigating the winter season, ice and water. We will be making snowflakes, ornaments, pattern chains and many decorations for you to enjoy! Our SEL lessons this month are focused on giving to others, size of the problem, flexible vs. rock brains and win-win solutions to conflict. The students are using their SEL tools daily and it has been a pleasure to observe their development as a class.

Happy Holidays!

The holidays are approaching quickly! If your family has a special winter holiday tradition that you would like to share with the class, please let me know. We will be learning about several holidays this month and I would love to have families share about their celebrations.

Cold and Flu Season is Here!

It is that time of year again when the sniffles are everywhere! Please be sure to keep your child home for 24 hours after a fever or vomiting. If your child's illness prevents them from getting enough sleep or being comfortable, please allow them time at home to rest. Bugs spread very quickly at school. Lice is also common this time of year, so if you see your child itching their head, please take a closer look! They are difficult to spot and can also spread rapidly. They are tricky to get rid of and can reoccur if not treated properly. A good resource to use is: www.headlice.org.

Winter Pajama Party

We will have our Winter Celebration from 11-12:30 on Wednesday December 20. This is a minimum day for the entire school, so all students will be dismissed at 12:30. We will enjoy a nutritious snack during our party, but not lunch that day. TK students will still be eating snack at school, so please be sure to send them with a large snack for the day. Students are encouraged to wear their pajamas to school and to bring one favorite stuffed animal. If you are interested in helping at the celebration, please contact our room parents, Avani Gupta and Katie Williams. School will resume after the winter break on Thursday, January 4th, 2018.

Parent Volunteer Schedule

The parent volunteer sign ups will come out next week for the New Year. January, February and March will be the next three-month rotation of patient parents! Volunteers will start on Monday January 8th. I will work hard to accommodate the variety of schedules of each parent and try to fulfill the needs of having parents working in class at least once or twice a month. Thank you for taking the time to come into class to help out with all of our activities. Your children love to see you there and so do we!

Reading to Your TK Student

Recently, I came across an article about the importance of reading to your children on a daily basis. Just 15 minutes each day will make a huge difference in your child's success. Please make this special time happen each day! Here are the top ten benefits of to reading to your child:

1. It will build a stronger relationship with you.
2. You promote a commitment to academic excellence.
3. You will models basic speech skills.
4. You teach book handling skills and the basics of how reading works.
5. You models better communication skills.
6. You encourage a mastery of language.
7. You model logical thinking skills.
8. It provides new experiences and vocabulary.
9. It enhances attention span, concentration and discipline.
10. You share the fun or reading and learning!

TK Wishlists

Donations of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

- Boxes of soft facial tissues
- Non-toxic spray cleaner
- Weekly fruit/veggies donations and monthly play dough sign-ups are in the TK room by the door
- Cardboard wrapping paper tubes (only thick, sturdy and large please)

Online Donations:

- Lakeshore Learning (Use this url: www.lakeshorelearning.com)
- Amazon (Use this url: <http://a.co/hVmz mhR>)

Thank you for all of your donations to the TK room!
I hope that you and your family have a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely, Mrs. V.