

February 3, 2017

Dear Parents,

I can't believe it's February!!! I continue to be impressed and excited with the progress the children are making. We have all come a long way since August!

### **Language Arts**

We read the reproducible books in class which are sent home every few weeks. Thank-you for reinforcing these at home, the children are getting so excited to read....I love it!! The children are writing in their journals a couple times a week and are practicing letter formation and sizing. We are working on the short i family, words such as "hit", "sit", and "itch". We continue to work on identifying the first, middle and last sound of the words we read. We are also working on breaking words into syllables and identifying and creating rhyming words.

Our sight word list continues to grow. Thank-you for working on these with your children at home! I use flash cards each morning to review the sight words. We are now ready to start practicing the second column: red, orange, black, green, brown, pink, purple, white, yellow, mad, sit, on, have, to. Please let me know if you need another copy of our words.

### **Math:**

We will begin working on learning the 3-D shapes: sphere, cube, cylinder, cone and pyramid. I will use a song on You-Tube called the "3-D Shapes I Know". This is a fun way for the children to "rap" the tune as they learn the shapes! We will also work on the concept of identifying halves and quarters and making equal groups. For example, the children will work on an activity where they are put into groups with two paper plates and a bag of snacks. They will then work together in order to divide the snacks evenly onto each plate. We continue to practice writing the numbers 1-20 correctly and counting by 1's, 2's and 5's.

## **Religion**

We have been talking about forgiveness and about how God wants us to be forgiving of others. We also have been discussing how God forgives us no matter what. Many of our group conversations have centered around questions such as, "what if I do this?" They have figured out that the answer is always the same, "yes, God forgives you." We are still emphasizing making good choices and being a good friend to others. We will also be discussing Saint Valentine.

## **Social Studies/Science**

We will be continuing to study the solar system. The children have been learning so much about the planets, moon, sun and constellations. We even watched a rocket launch and moon walk on the Smart Board! All our knowledge will come in handy when we take our trip to the planetarium in a couple weeks! (Tuesday, February 21) We will also be discussing the Presidents. We will learn about President's Day and about the White House. We will talk about what decisions the children would make as President.....I can't wait!!

## **Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**

Our class Valentine party! The children are asked to please make a Valentine "mailbox" at home to receive their cards in. This can be made out of a shoebox or other type of small box or bag. Please encourage your child to sign each valentine, but please don't address the cards to any particular child! This makes our "delivery" process much easier!!!!

## **Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> and Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup> No School**

## **Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

Ash Wednesday-Please let us know if your child doesn't want to receive ashes.

**"Every student can learn, just not on the same day, or the same way."**

**-George Evans**

*Lori Shindle*