



Forest School Newsletter

December 2012
Volume 8- Issue 1

Dates to Remember

Thursday, December 20th:
Celebration of Excellence (9:30 AM in Gym)
Friday, December 21st:
Four Hour Session
Wednesday, January 2nd:
Return to School
Wednesday, January 9th:
Staff Development - Half day of School
Monday, January 21st:
No School - Martin Luther King
Wednesday, February 6th:
Staff Development - Half day of School
Monday, February 18th - 22nd:
No School - Mid-Winter Recess
Thursday, March 28th:
Report Cards
Friday, March 29th:
No School - Good Friday
Wednesday, April 3rd:
Parent Conference Night
Half Day of School - NO AFTERNOON KDG.
Thursday, April 4th:
NO MORNING KDG. -
KDG. Parent Conferences
Monday, April 15th - April 19th:
No School - Spring Recess
Wednesday, May 8th:
Staff Development - Half day of School
Monday, May 27th:
No School - Memorial Day



Principal's Corner

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Can you believe it is Holiday time already? A special congratulation to our first round of Celebration of Excellence recipients. Students and families attended an award ceremony on Thursday, December 20th. A special thanks to all that made it possible.

Our uniform is doing well as we continue to build our wardrobes. As a reminder, uniforms are to be worn everyday. If you have questions or need assistance please contact our school Social Worker.

Lastly, we are planning our Winter Open House/Parent Academy. It will take place on Wednesday, January 30, 2013 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We will have two half hour sessions so parents with multiple siblings can attend. Also there will be an ELL presentation for our Spanish speaking community in the library. In addition, our uniform vendor will be available for purchases Credit cards will be accepted.

As always please contact me with any questions or concerns.

I wish everyone a safe and joyful holiday season.

Thomas J. Hunt



Kindergarten News

The Kindergarten students have been working hard all semester! At this time, students know ten letters and ten sight words. We are also working on reading and writing using our sight words. In writing, we just started writing simple sentences and illustrating a picture to match. When reading we are looking for picture clues, sight words and trying to use letter sounds to help figure out words. In math we know how to read, write and count numbers between 0 - 20. As the semester comes to a close, we've incorporated a lesson on the five senses using gingerbread stories, creating gingerbread people and gingerbread houses. We wish everyone a healthy and happy winter break. See you in 2013!

Miss Cooke, Mrs. Carey & Mrs. Smith

First Grade News

Welcome to the wonderful world of first grade! First grade is such an exciting year, and we are thrilled to share it with your children.

We are learning how to become star readers in and out of the classroom. We have been working on our letter sounds with our focus on short vowel sounds. The students have been busy learning and applying their spelling and sight words to reading and writing. We have also been practicing making predictions before we read a story, checking for understanding during a story and retelling the story after reading. The students are working very hard on using their reading strategies during reading to help decode words that are unfamiliar. We are so proud of the progress they have made so far and are looking forward to their continued success.



First Grade News (continued)

Our mathematicians will be working on comparing and ordering numbers and the relationships between 5 and 10. In the past months, we had been learning about addition and subtraction facts to 18. It has been so fantastic to see the growth the children have made from their pre-tests to their post-tests. Keep up the good work and remember to practice, practice, practice!

Our scientists have been exploring many new topics. In the fall, we learned about the life cycles of apple and pumpkins. We are currently discovering facts about many different kinds of animals. In Social Studies, we have been learning about different holidays and family traditions. How exciting!

First grade is such an important year for the children. Please remember to read with your child every day. To help your child strengthen his/her comprehension skills, ask your child who the characters are, where the story takes place, and what the story is about. This is a great chance to add a story to your "Book It!" forms. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and support. Let's continue to work together to make your child's year a great success!

Mrs. Soto, Miss Cooper, Miss Giaquinto, Mrs. Bergeron, Miss Tamburro



Second Grade News

Math- Students are learning place value to 1,000. This includes comparing three digit numbers, identifying number patterns, and writing numbers in expanded form, standard form, and word form of numbers. Students are consistently working on addition and subtraction math facts. Please review these concepts and skills with your child.

Reading - We are working on identifying the main idea of a paragraph and the supporting details. To figure out the main idea, it is helpful to look back through the story at the pictures, captions, headings, and title to see how they fit together. When reading nonfiction texts with your child, ask what the entire paragraph is about and what are the details that support the main idea? Helpful reading strategies include looking at picture clues, predicting, picturing what is read, wondering, summarizing, and text to self connections. Please continue to review the elements of a fiction story which include character, setting, problem, and solution.

Language Arts- Students are writing nonfiction. They are learning to introduce a topic, use facts and supporting details to develop the topic, and include a closing statement. We are finding and correcting mistakes in a letter as well as identifying sentences vs. sentence fragments.

Science- We just finished our unit on solids, liquids, and gases. We are now learning about soil.

Social Studies- Currently we are starting our unit on wants and needs.

**** Please encourage your child to read each evening. Students are encouraged to fill out the Book IT reading log with books from school or books from home.**

Thank you for all that you do!

Mrs. Muttitt, Miss Swinton, Miss Schmidt, Mrs. Kirwood and Miss Poulsen

Third Grade News

The third graders have been very busy this first marking period. Students have been studying multiplication and division in math. We would ask that parents have their children practice their math facts every night. We sent home flashcards for students to cut out earlier in the year, but if you need another set just let us know. We just wrapped up our second unit in reading and will now move on to non-fiction text. Please encourage your child to read at home and when possible, expose them to non-fiction. We suggest that you take them to the library and help them choose topics that they have interest in. This will keep them engaged and turn them into life-long readers. In science, we just finished our unit on states of matter and will be moving on to rocks and minerals. The third graders are excited for our first field trip in January. We will be going to the Lyman Center at Southern Connecticut State University to see Seussical the Musical. As always, let us know if you have any questions.

Miss Barletta, Mrs. Butler, Ms. Delaney

Fourth Grade News

Welcome to the fourth grade! This year we have many activities planned. Your child will be challenged and engaged in all areas of the curriculum. It is extremely important that we work together to have your child reach academic success. Please review all concepts at home and encourage your child to read every evening. Your child should come to school each day ready to learn. We appreciate all you do to support your child in school. Any questions please contact us at school.

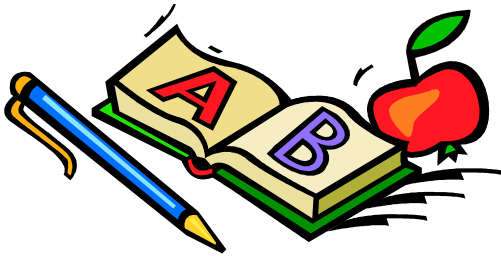
Mrs. Tortora, Mrs. Velleca, Mrs. Piscitelli & Mrs. Luzziatti



PreSchool News

As the 2012 year comes to a close, both the three and four year old preschool classes have been busy with units on school, community, five senses and the four seasons. Our three year old class is learning classroom routines and working on turn taking and cooperation skills throughout the day. The four year old class continues to work on these skills along with letter recognition, counting, number identification and rhyming skills as well. We look forward to exploring our next unit on animals by turning our dramatic play center into an Animal Hospital.

Mrs. Johns, Mrs. Scott-Gloster
& Mrs. Zwack



Food Service

If your income changes during the school year you may be eligible for free or reduced lunch. Please feel free to contact the office for a lunch application.



As always, please be reminded that if your child is absent, please call our ...

"ATTENDANCE LINE"

203-931-6809

Please leave a brief message stating the child's name, room number and reason for absence.



Merry  *Christmas*

HAPPY NEW YEAR  

Buon Natale ~ Felice Anno Nuovo
Joyeux Noël ~ Bonne Annee
Feliz Navidad ~ Feliz Año Nuevo
Feliz Natal ~ Feliz Ano Novo
Vesel Bozic ~ Srečno Novo Leto
Noeliniz Ve Yeni Yiliniz Olsun ~ Yeni Yiliniz Kutlu Olsun
Naya Sal Mubarak
Dewenati
Manigong Bagong Taon
Mwaka Mzuri ~ Heri Ya Mwaka Mpya
Milad Majid ~ Sana Saiida
Gëzur Krislinjden ~ Gezuar Vitin e Ri
Sheng Dan Kuai Le ~ Xin Nian Kuai Le
Kala Christouyenna ~ Kali Chronia
Jwaye nowel ~ Bønn ané
Nav Varsh Ki Subhkamna
Souksan Van Christmas ~ Sabai Di Pi Mai
Nollaig Shona Dhuit ~ ath Bhliain Faoi Mhaise
Afehyia Pa
Sur Sdei Chhnam Thmei