



11/19-20/09

Kindergarten News from Mrs. Ansted, Miss Kronmann and Mrs. Sparks

Hello, Parents,

Thanks to everyone who attended a conference last week. We had close to 100% participation from our parents.

We will conclude our study of Native Americans next week with a powwow on Monday and Tuesday. Please ask your child how they liked the Three Sisters' soup, corn muffins and popcorn.

There will be NO HOMEWORK and NO SHARING activity next week. These assignments will start up again after Thanksgiving break with the letter "Ff". The letters "Ii", as in Indian and ice cream, plus the letter "Ll" will take us through the month of December.

Our supply of daily snacks is getting low. In the next two weeks please send in a class snack that we may share.

Some children are complaining that they are cold out on the playground. Students must be prepared for recess daily. Please include a warm winter coat, hats, gloves or mittens, boots and snow pants when there is snow on the ground. Send in a pair of tennis shoes when your child wears boots to school. Make sure that the shoelaces are untied before they are put into the book bag.

Secret Santa shopping is scheduled for Thursday/Friday, December 3 and 4. Students will be bringing home information about this holiday event very soon. Secret Santa shopping lists, money and shopping bags (with first and last names written on the bag) may be brought to school beginning on Monday, November 30. This is a fun day for everyone. Shopping helpers are always needed and welcomed. Volunteer for an hour, half day or both days. You won't be sorry.

We are currently working on writing the numbers 0-10, in random order. Reversals are acceptable but we do encourage children to find the number in the classroom (clock, number chart, calendar) before they write, especially if they are unsure of the direction to begin writing. Other math skills to be tested include recognizing numbers 11-20 and counting objects up to 20.

Soon we will be asking all of the students to write down 5 words that they know from memory. These words cannot be posted in the classroom, such as our sight words. Many children can write simple words, such as mom, dad, cat, dog and stop without assistance. Sibling and friend names can be among the five words written and don't forget rhyming words (cat, hat, bat, mat, sat, fat). Review this report card skill with your child during our Thanksgiving break.

During the month of December our students will be learning about different holiday celebrations, including Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Christmas. This Kindergarten course of study will include art projects, math lessons and games relating to these topics.

Continue to work on reading our second quarter sight words with your child. Review the six words from first quarter, too. We are finding that many children can read the words in isolation but have difficulty using the words in a journal story.

Mrs. Gutierrez and Sarah are spending some time in our classroom each week presenting mini-lessons to the children on topics that include sharing, respecting others' self-space, telling the truth, tattling, etc. Please ask your child what he/she learned from these sessions.

Beginning in mid-January, your child will be going to the computer lab and learning basic computer skills. Every child will need an inexpensive set of headphones (\$3.00) that will stay in school. The headphones need to be placed in a zip loc bag with your child's name written on the bag. Give your child a head start by teaching him/her the use of the following: space bar, enter key, shift key, delete key. Have your child practice typing his/her first and last name, using a capitol letter at the beginning of each name and placing a space between the two names.

Thank you for all that you do,

Mrs. Ansted, Miss Kronmann and Mrs. Sparks