

October

Wow! Can you believe we have one month of school already under our belts? Each month's newsletter has a lot of information so please read everything carefully.

September- We covered a lot of information in the past month. We learned many nursery rhymes, learned about our world and community, and we learned how germs get on and in our bodies (The students this year are really good about washing their hands, so keep encouraging that at home). The children learned about the life cycle of a butterfly. We had several monarch caterpillars that we watched make a chrysalis. We also had great time learning about John Chapman and his adventures across America. Usually the children enjoy making and eating the applesauce in class, but we couldn't do it this year. If you would like to make applesauce at home we use the recipe of apples and cinnamon. That's it. If you make it you can share on the seesaw app.

October- This month we continue learning nursery rhymes along with learning about community helpers and the five senses. We might begin our study on Native Americans that has some great native folk tales, including the story about Jumping Mouse. Jumping Mouse is usually one of the children's most favorite stories of the year. This unit may have to wait until November.

For those of you that are not new to kindergarten, you know that we usually go to Mulberry farm in the fall. We have decided to do this trip in the Spring. Mrs. Bomann and I had been thinking about changing the time of year and this seems like a good time to give it a try. We will be having the Appleton firefighters visit our class and that will be awesome!

Reading-Horizons A- (Also see Mrs. Bomann's tips about finishing homework and bookmarks) We are progressing very well. Please make sure that your child knows all of the letter names that are coming home on the homework pages. The students should have received their books on Monday September 30th. The first few pages have only pictures. Please ask your child to retell the stories they were told in class. This assists the children in reading comprehension. Don't worry if they can not remember much. This skill will improve. Once words begin, please assist your child in mastering these words. A letter was sent home with the book with more specifics on how to use the bookmarks given out with the books. **All books must be covered with paper cover (grocery bags work well).** Stretchy covers are not allowed. Books are to be kept in the plastic bag for your benefit (Think wet).

October

Saxon K- Math- Math is also going along very nicely. Many of the children need a bit more practice writing and recognizing numbers. Please continue to do this at home. We already have had one oral assessments and we will have another one for lesson 20. If you would like to practice more at home you may practice writing numbers to 30 and counting up to 100 orally.

Reading: Horizons AB with Mrs. Bomann

As we begin October, we begin reading words and stories! Keep blending those sounds smoothly 😊 You should have been receiving emails from me through September about reading. Let me know if you have not been receiving those.

TIPS:

__ When reading, children must say the letter sounds and/or combinations found in their books. They must practice these for quick recall and mental agility – model and practice for success in this reading program.

__ When reading, children at this age needs to use a “sticky pointy finger” under the word they are reading. This is required in class and is part of the report card.

__ When reading new words (word lists in isolation), a child should say the sounds of the letters. Ram is rrr aaa mmm. It should be smoothed out or said in a song-like way; not with pauses.

__ Children do need help at this age with homework, especially making sure they complete all parts of a worksheet. Email me if you need suggestions.

__ ¾ of a picture must be colored, generally using more than 3 colors and showing effort, thus improvement as we move through the program.

__ Children may know sight words, but this reading program will regularly test them and give them words ask them to focus on individual letters (and therefore not make guesswork out of reading). This will make them very competent, strong readers

someday, but it is a gradual process.

__ Your child should read sounds and words from the book and eventually stories once or twice to you each night. When finished, parent signs the bookmark.

*** All books must be covered with a book cover, try to keep them in a zip lock bag.**

Math: Saxon 1 with Mrs. Bomann

In October, we will explore pennies, kindergarten geometry/graphing and we will introduce math facts. Saxon program will continually add new items often, so keep an eye on the work to watch what is new. I think the most challenging part of this program is the math facts, so when those begin I will be encouraging practice. I will send extra practice home if a student needs the extra practice.

¡Hola! During the month of October, we will be learning colors in Spanish. Here is a link to color words/phrases you can practice at home with your child(ren): <http://bit.ly/2KKzyl5> ~Sra. Cihlar

Snacks-I think our change of group to individual snacks is going well. Thank you to those parents who leave an extra snack or two in a special backpack pocket just in case one is forgotten on a given day,

Prize Bucket- A mom just asked if she could send in prize bucket items. Yes, if you are cleaning out your child’s room and would like to donate some small items, please do so. If you need to put them in a paper bag (so your child doesn’t

October

see them) and leave them in the office, please do so.

Paper grocery bags-If you have a few extra hanging around home, I have some uses for them here at school.

Birthday Invitations- This is a reminder that there is a school policy against sending home birthday invitations at school in the students' cubbies. Please keep this in mind when planning your parties in the future. I also discourage the children if I hear party conversations at school. Many times this causes hurt feelings and can be a form of bullying. An example of this could be, "If you don't do this for me, I am not going to invite you to my party." It is amazing how many times I hear things like this at school. I want to build a community here at school.

I think we have all had a great start to the year. This is a fabulous class and I am excited for a great year!

Sincerely,

Robyn Hernandez Nagreen