

KINDERGARTEN CORNER

Mrs. Boring's Class

Thursday, September 2, 2010



WOW! We are so PROUD of our Kindergarten students. Have you heard that they are walking to our classroom by themselves? They look so PROUD walking down our hallway every morning. Your children are really doing a GREAT job! Thanks for helping them take that "big step." Believe me, I know how hard it can be, but they are doing GREAT! (If you ever need to speak to me in the morning, PLEASE know you are welcome to walk down to our room. I just wanted the children to start feeling more independent.)



Have you heard? Mr. M got in a little bit of TROUBLE when he left our room without telling anyone. He must have been so excited to introduce us to Ms. T. She traveled to St. Rose in a taxi to meet us. She heard that many of the Kindergartners have loose teeth right now and many more have already lost a first tooth. Ms. T loves to hear about teeth. She has TALL TEETH and spends most of her time brushing. She hopes that the children are remembering to brush too. Please help remind your child to keep track of their brushing for a week. When they return their chart next TUESDAY (9/7), Ms. T has a certificate for them! ☺



The first STEEP assessment will take place next WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8. During the STEEP assessment, each Kindergarten student will be assessed on letter and number recognition. The children will be shown a letter/number and will be asked to name the letter/number. This test helps us identify students that may benefit from extra practice on letter/number identification before full-day Kindergarten begins in January. Once the results are given to me I will notify you ONLY if your child's score demonstrates the need for remediation. These scores do NOT suggest that your child is not ready for Kindergarten, but rather that your child may benefit from receiving extra help in the area of letter/number recognition. You will NOT be contacted if your

child does not fall in this range, but if you would like to know how your child did on this assessment you are welcome to contact me.



This week I was able to get our first field trip booked. We take 2 field trips in the fall and 2 in the spring. **Our first field trip will be Tuesday, September 28th.** We will attend the "Survive Alive House" in Indianapolis. This field trip will kick off our Fire Safety Unit that will begin during Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 4-8). I am in the process of scheduling our 2nd field trip for **Monday, October 18th, but this has NOT yet been confirmed.** We will attend Apple Works in Trafalgar for our 2nd field trip. This field trip will take place at the end of our Apple Unit. **MORE INFORMATION AND PERMISSION SLIPS WILL COME HOME AS THE DATES GET CLOSER.** We will take a bus to both field trips; however, we WILL need chaperones to go with us. If you are unable to attend the fall field trips you can possibly join us in the spring. We do NOT allow siblings to go on our field trips so I wanted to be sure to give you the dates in plenty of time for you to make other arrangements or in case you need to take the day off from work. Once again, more information will come home near the end of September. If you do not yet have a background check on file, please be sure to call Mrs. Morales in the school office ASAP so she can get you the form you need. If you are planning to attend the VIRTUS training at St. Rose on September 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the PLC, please call the office to sign up. This is mandatory for you to chaperone a field trip. Please be sure to check out the VIRTUS website (www.virtus.org) to register for another session if you cannot attend the one on 9/9.

GOAL SHEETS

The goal sheets are now posted in our classroom and I have had the chance to explain them to the class. I was happy to hear many of the children say that they have already begun working on their goals at home. Next week we will make puppets that the children can use to practice their phone number and address at home. It is very helpful for the children to have "hands on"

(CONTINUED)

experiences (the more they use their senses, the better). Last year I had students even practice calling mom's cell phone from the home phone or vice versa. However, I told the children they must have permission from mom/dad to practice this way. I do NOT expect the children to know their area code, city, state or zip code, however, I realize that some children may have already mastered some of these goals. If so, please know that I'd like to challenge them to go one step further with their phone numbers and addresses. This is NOT mandatory, just an **EXTRA CHALLENGE**. I like to ask "challenge questions" throughout the day so this is just one more for those that like the challenge. Please continue working on September's goals at home. If you find that your child is struggling with one (or more) of the goals, please let me know and I will be happy to offer some suggestions for helping them to succeed! **SUCCESS COMES IN CANS: I CAN, YOU CAN, WE CAN!** Thanks for your help! 😊



We have been practicing writing our names the "kindergarten way." The children are doing a **GREAT** job with their new style of writing! Please be reminded that the children have only learned how to make "2" letters thus far in D'Nealian. When they are writing letters in their name that we have not yet learned, they are strictly making them by looking (visual discrimination) at letters I have modeled for them on their nametags. The children are really doing a nice job with this transition. If you see "red boxes" on your child's page this is simply to help them with sizing and spacing. At times you may also see an "X." before your child's name. This is simply to help them with a starting point when writing their name. Writing from "left to right" can sometimes be difficult at this age level. Please remember to look over the papers that come home in the Friday folder each week. Continue praising and encouraging your children! Each week we will be learning how to write a new letter. Although the children don't have daily "homework" per se, it's a good idea to have them practice writing their letters at home a couple times a week when they are not working on their goals. I have encouraged them to practice writing their letters using sidewalk chalk (while the weather is still nice) or shaving cream on the wall of the shower or on the counter top (with mom's approval, of course 😊). The more the children can use their senses, the better!

REMINDERS

*9/3 NO SCHOOL; Professional Development

Day for teachers at Roncalli H.S.

*9/6 NO SCHOOL (Labor Day)

*9/7 PRIDE Meeting @ 6:30.

*9/8 STEEP Assessment. PLEASE be sure your child gets a good night's rest and eats a healthy breakfast. Kindergarten will be assessed first thing Wednesday morning and we want the children to be alert. Please be sure your child arrives to school on time so we can begin this assessment promptly.

*9/10 SPIRIT DAY; ALL SCHOOL MASS.

*9/13 FALL PICTURE DAY

*PLEASE remember to write your child's name on all of their belongings (jackets, lunchboxes, etc.) Our school lost and found is already growing and unfortunately, many of the items do NOT have names written on them.

*PLEASE be sure to let us know of any dismissal changes for your child so we can be sure to get them where they need to be.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

*Thanks again for all of the snacks you are sending in each day! The children are really enjoying them!

*Thanks for your attendance at Back To School Night! It was so nice to see you! If you were unable to attend, you will find the information in your child's Friday folder.

*Thank you for your help with our magazine sales!

*Thank you for the Scholastic Book Orders! We will earn books for our classroom!

*THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO! I know sometimes the "little ones" forget to tell "us," but all you do for your children (and St. Rose) doesn't go unnoticed!



ASK ME ABOUT...

...things that are blue and our "blue song."

...the Spanish word for red & blue.

...Ms. T and her TALL teeth.

...some of the "living" show & tell "creatures" that have visited our room.

...some of the "T" words we came up with.

...where the title of a book is located.

...what an author of a book does; what an illustrator of a book does.

...meeting our 8th grade buddies

...some birds that CAN fly and some birds that CANNOT fly.

...how families grow and change; God made ALL families SPECIAL.

...what it means to be nocturnal.

ENJOY THE 4 DAY WEEKEND! 😊