October 6, 2017

Dear TK Parents,

This week we worked in our friends and family unit. Next week, we will be completing this unit and beginning a new one.

In literacy, we reviewed the letter Mm and began letter Aa activities. We learned many words that begin with the letter “a” and practiced writing the correct letter formation for both the uppercase and lowercase letter. We shared our toys from home that begin with the letter “a”. We matched uppercase letters to their lowercase letters. We focused on the big book, People and Their Homes. We discussed the difference between friends and family. We made a chart of the family we live with and the family we visit. We read the emergent reader: At Home. We learned the sight word: yellow.

In math, we reviewed numbers 1 and 2 and focused on number 3. We learned to identify these numbers using the numeral, the ten frame, tally marks, the number line, and a picture. We worked on matching numbers with their corresponding dots. We played math games using cubes, notecards and dice, and tried to get all the cubes off the cards. Have your child(ren) teach you this game. We reviewed patterns using stamps. We learned how to put items in order from shortest to longest.

In science, we learned about changes in nonliving materials. We learned that we can make different colors when we mix two of the primary colors (blue, red, yellow) together. We made our own play-dough (1 blue, 1 red, and 1 yellow) and mixed blue and red together to make purple, red and yellow together to make orange, and blue and yellow together to make green. Ask your child(ren) if they remember what these colors, when mixed, make. It may have turned out to be more rainbow-colored than mixed.

In our social skills lessons for the week, we learned about empathy. We used the book, Feelings in a Bucket, to help the students understand that it is important to help their friends when they are sad or mad and show that they care about their friends. We discussed how to respond in a sympathetic and caring way. We learned that sometimes friends need to be allowed to feel the way they feel. Other times, it might help to let the friend talk about his or her feelings.

Thank you to Misha’s grandpa for being our mystery reader on Monday. It was very enjoyable! Thank you to Stacey and Paw Paw, Misha’s mom and grandpa, for helping with science this week. Thank you to Kimberly, Vince’s mom, for helping with technology. Thank you Parinaz, Nia’s mom, for helping with folders and math on Friday.

We had 4th grade reading buddies on Tuesday. On Wednesday, we had Technology with Mr. Rob in which we presented our K’nex simple machines that we made. We had music class with Ms. Gonzalez. (Please make sure that you pick up your child on Wednesdays at the auditorium). We celebrated Misha’s birthday on Thursday and had a great time! On Thursday and Friday, we had P.E. with Coach F. What a wonderful week!

**Announcements:**

1. **Homework:**
2. **Show and Tell:** This week’s letter is the Letter Ss. Please look around your house with your child and have your child bring something on October 12th that begins with the letter “s” such as a ☺.
3. **Reading Journals**: These journals in the plastic bag were sent home today and the drawing and response is due on Friday, October 13th. Please have your child choose a book to respond to in the journal. You can read the directions about how to complete this assignment pasted in the journal or attached below.
4. **Reading Log**: Read for 15-20 minutes every day. This reading log, which your child colors for each book read in the month of October and you as the parents sign, is due on Wednesday, November 1st. Please put this in your child’s purple folder the night before. If you would like an extra one or happen to lose the one that you have, you can go to the section: Home/School Connection on the classroom website: mrsbtk.weebly.com, download the form and print it out.
5. **Library Book:** Bring back your library book on Wednesday, October 18th. This is our next library time.
6. **Pick-Up on Wednesdays:** Please pick up your child at the auditorium on Wednesday afternoons. We have music class that will end at 2:45 pm. Thank you.
7. **Halloween Senses Activity:** There are still two more spaces left to sign up. It is a really fun science activity! <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45aeab283-halloween1>.
8. **Activities to Do at Home:**
   1. Practice sight words: I, the, a, am, red, blue, yellow, like, to, it, is
   2. Practice identifying uppercase and lowercase letters: a, m and their sounds. Blend them together using –am word family (ham, pam, ram, Sam).
   3. Word Identification: Count the number of words in a spoken sentences. Say the first line of a nursery rhyme (for example, Mary had a little lamb.) Then, using your fingers, count the words together.
   4. Beginning Sounds: Play, “I’m going on a camping trip…” Start the game by saying, “I’m going on a camping trip and I’m going to bring a dog and a dandelion. What are you going to bring?” The child should think of something that also starts with the /d/ sound. Remember, this game is all about sounds, not letters. For example, if the sound you chose is “sss” and the child says, “circus,” that would be an appropriate answer.
   5. Identify shapes and sizes. Build structures using blocks or old boxes. Discuss the need to build a strong base. Ask your child which shapes stack easily and why.
   6. Play “I spy”, looking for different shapes and colors. “I spy something that is round.” “I spy something that is rectangular.”
   7. Go on a “shape hunt”. Have your child look for as many circles, squares, triangles and rectangles as he or she can find in the home or outside.
9. **Scholastic Reading:** October book orders are due on October 30th. If you would like to order, please go online to <https://clubs2.scholastic.com/> and enter our Class Activation Code: NTZNM.

**Birthdays Next Week:**

Amelia- October 10th

Emily- October 10th

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns via email benyaminy@westhollywoodelementary.net

Sincerely,

Mrs. Benyaminy