August 25, 2017

Dear Parents,

We had a great week and learned so much! It is wonderful to see how the class plays together and works together so well. Our theme continues to be “All About Me” and many of our activities and centers pertained to this theme.

During literacy time, we learned how spoken words can be written down. We learned how to identify a word and a space between words. We learned that the parts of a book and the jobs of an author and an illustrator. We began to do some activities with our names. We also read our first emergent reader book. Everyone read so well by using the pictures as clues! We also began our Color Monster Book.

During word study, we learned that some words can be spotted in books many times. These words are called sight words. We learned how to spot the words: red, I, like, to.

During math, we learned to sort by big and small, and same and different.

During science, we learned that we are going to be scientists this year. We discussed, “What is science?” and “What does a scientist look like and do?” We then drew ourselves because we are scientists too! We even did our first experiment called: The Rainbow Milk Experiment. If you see that they have some food coloring on their shirts, it is from this. Ask your children what they observed in the experiment. As true scientists, we recorded our observations in our notebooks.

This week, we opened the puppet center, the abc center, the math center, and the art center inside the classroom, and during outdoor play, we learned how to ride tricycles in our small yard. We continued to learn about classroom procedures, routines, and rules. We were very busy this week exploring the classroom and learning various information at each of the centers. We had a great time!

We had our fourth grade reading buddies on Tuesday, and P.E. with Coach F. on Thursday and Friday.

**Important Announcements and Homework Activity:**

I would like to go over a few things that will help next week and this year run more smoothly.

1. All About Me Bag Projects: Due on Monday, August 28th. If you are missing this assignment, please email me.
2. Some students have been coming to school without their purple folder and yellow manila folder. The purple folder stays in the backpack and is the parent/teacher communication and homework folder. Please check it every night and put it back in your child’s backpack. The yellow manila folder comes home on Fridays with your child’s weekly work. Some weeks will have more than others. Please make sure that this folder comes back empty every Monday (or after the weekend). Thank you.
3. If you have not yet turned in a change of clothes: (underwear, socks, shorts, pants, shirt), please do so as soon as possible in a ziplock bag labeled with your child’s name. Accidents can happen and it is easier to take care of if we have a change of clothes. Thank you.
4. Please hand in headphones for your child. Although we will not be using the IPads for some time, your child should still have headphones at school as soon as possible. Thank you.
5. Please make sure you have separated the lunches and snacks from one another and labeled both of them with your child’s name. It can be as simple as putting the snack in a plastic bag with his or her name on it. It will make your child’s morning routine, snack time, and lunchtime easier.
6. Make sure that all of your child’s clothes (especially sweaters) have his or her name on it. Make sure that snacks, containers, lunches and water bottles also have your child’s name on it. Every day there is a pile of items that are left behind because there is no name on them.
7. While children love to eat junk food, it is important to make sure that snacks are healthy and that every lunch includes fruit and vegetables. So far, many have been sending their children in with healthy snacks and lunches! Keep it up!
8. **Admissions Day and Labor Day:** There will be no school on September 1st and September 4th.

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

Sincerely,
Mrs. Benyaminy