January 19, 2018

Dear TK Parents,

This week we continued Unit 5 Winter.

In literacy, we reviewed the letters Mm, Aa, Ss, Tt, Ii, Nn, Ff, Oo, and Pp. We read three letter words (cvc) by sounding out each letter. We continued to work on segmenting sounds in three sound words (pan, pet, pack). We learned about word families that end with –ot and –op. We read emergent reader books about winter. We focused on the book, The Mitten by Jan Brett. We focused on the illustrations to predict what comes next. While reading, we noticed that Jan Brett gave us, the readers, clues about which animal would creep into the mitten next. We read the magazine “My Big World” and learned the difference between melting and frozen. We discussed why things freeze and melt.

In math, we learned how to count on. For example, if we have 4 cubes but we need 7, how many more cubes do we need? We reviewed the numbers 1-6 and learned number 7. We reviewed “more, less, and equal” by learning the game “War” without jacks, queens, and kings.

In science, learned about the three states of matter: solid, liquid, gas using water. We investigated how a liquid takes on the shape of the container. We learned that we can change the form of a liquid by adding heat or cold. When we freeze water, it becomes ice, a solid. When we heat water, it becomes steam, or a gas.

We had 4th grade buddies on Tuesday. We had social skills with Mr. Rowell, technology with Mr. Rob, and music with Ms. Gonzalez on Wednesday. We had P.E. with Coach F. on Thursday and Friday. What a stupendous week!

**Volunteers This Week**

Thank you Stacey for helping with folders on Friday.

Thank you Nancy for helping on Thursday.

Thank you Megan for helping with science.

**Announcements:**

1. **Homework:**
2. **Show and Tell:** This week’s letter is the letter Cc. Please look around your house with your child and have your child bring in something on **Thursday, January 25th**that begins with the letter Cc such as a car, a cat, or a cape. ☺
3. **Reading Journals:** Have your child respond in the journal to one book that s/he has read that week **due Friday, January 26th.**  Have your child label his/her drawing using inventive spelling (Say the word, stretch the word, write the sounds heard, repeat until the word is written to the child’s satisfaction.)
4. **Take Home Activity Calendar:** Please do each activity for Unit 5 Weeks 3 and 4.Check each activity off as you do them and turn it in on Monday, January 29th.
5. **Reading Log**: The January reading log will be due on Thursday, February 1st. Read for 15-20 minutes every day and color in the mittens for each book read. Please put this in your child’s purple folder the night before. Extras can be found in the section: Home/School Connection on the classroom website: mrsbtk.weebly.com.
6. **Activities to Do at Home: (As well as Unit 5 activities Weeks 3 and 4)**
	1. Unit 5 activities Weeks 3 and 4 (I put it in the purple folder.)
	2. Practice sight words: red, blue, yellow, orange, green, brown, pink, purple, white, black, gray, I, the, a, am, like, to, it, is, this, here, are, my, can, see, you, do, what
	3. Practice identifying uppercase/lowercase letters and sounds: a, f, i, m, n, o, p, s, t.
	4. Point out letters on signs when walking outside, or labels when at a store or in the house.
	5. Play rhyming games while in the car to words such as pig, cat, red, fox, leg.
	6. 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.
	7. Beginning Sounds: Play, “I spy something that begins with (the letter sound).”
	8. Ending Sounds: Play, “I spy something that ends with (the sound)

 **Number Activities:** Count everything! Count toys, kitchen utensils and items of clothing as they come out of the dryer. Help your child count by pointing to and moving the objects as you say each number out loud. Count forward and backwards from different starting places. Sing counting songs and read counting books. Take your child on a “number hunt” in your home or neighborhood. Ask your child to help you solve everyday number problems. “We need six tomatoes to make out sauce for dinner and we have only two. How many more do we need to buy?” Ask your child how far s/he can count by 10’s. Ask your child to try counting backwards from 10, 20 or even 100. Make up games using dice and playing cards.

 **Pattern Activities:** Look for patterns in storybooks and songs. Create patterns using your body. Clap and stomp your foot in a particular sequence (clap, clap, stomp), have your child repeat the same sequence then create variations of the pattern together. Hunt for patterns around your house and your neighborhood (clothing, wallpaper, tiles, toys, flowers, fences). Use household items to create and extend patterns. Lay down a row of spoons pointing in different directions in a particular pattern (up, up, down, up, up, down) and ask your child to extend the pattern. Explore patterns created by numbers. Write the numbers from 1 to 100 in rows of 10 (1 to 10 in the first row), 11 to 20 in the second row, and so on). Note the patterns that you see when you look up and down, across or diagonally.

1. **Scholastic Reading:** January book orders are due on January 30th. If you would like to order, please go online to <https://clubs2.scholastic.com/> and enter our Class Activation Code: NTZNM.

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

Sincerely,

Mrs. Benyaminy