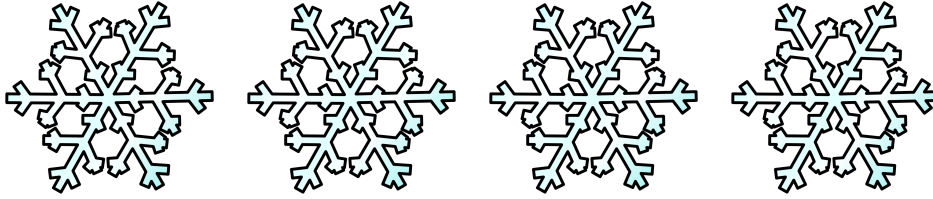


Kindergarten December Newsletter 2018



Upcoming Important Dates:

December 14th - Early Release

December 21st- Last day before winter break

January 2nd- School resumes

Kindergarten Author Switch:

Laura Numeroff: We will be exploring sequencing through various books of Laura Numeroff's collection. Together we will create projects related to her books as well as recreate some of her stories.

Eric Carle: We will be reading a bunch of different Eric Carle stories, learning about his life and his work. For each story we will be making some sort of cool project related to the artistic style of each story.

Jan Brett: We will look at and enjoy Jan Brett's beautiful illustrations and rich language she includes in her stories. While working on her stories we will work on some art activities to correlate with the stories we have read. Our discussion after reading the Jan Brett books will focus on the characters, setting, problem and solution. The books chosen for this unit are *The Mitten*, *The Gingerbread Baby*, *The Hat*, *The Three Snow Bears* & *Annie and the Wild Animals*.

Math:

We are working on Addition to 8. One focus has been to see how many ways we can make a number. We have also worked on using counting on to solve problems. Using math talk to explain how they got their answer has been very helpful for our student. At home when you are working on addition you can continue this by simplifying asking your child how they got their answer. Please continue to work on writing numbers at home from 1-20. We are still seeing many reversed numbers.

Reading

This month we will be working on reinforcing our reading strategies during literacy block. Students will be working on remembering to look at all the parts in the word when they approach a word that they do not know. This is an important skill as they should be applying it while reading their book bag books. When students are reading at home and they approach a word that they do not know you can use the phrase "look at all the parts" meaning look at each letter and think and say the sound that those letters make, then put it together and try reading the word.

Writing

In our journals we have worked on writing events in sequence. We have learned about transition words like: first, next, then, and last. When discussing events or the process of things please help your child notice the sequence that exists. Our list of automatic words continues to grow. We encourage you to practice the list of words that was given out at conferences. If you need an additional copy please contact us.

Winter Weather:

As a reminder students are outside for 30 minutes of recess a day unless it is below zero. Please be sure to send snow pants, boots, jackets, hat, gloves/mittens, and a scarf with your student. Even if it does not feel cold in the morning at times the temperature will drop. It is always better to be warm at recess than cold because they are able to enjoy their time outside much more! It is also very helpful if you label all of your student's items. It is much easier to locate a missing hat if it has a name in it. Please make sure that your student also has a change of clothes that is appropriate for the colder weather, just in case of accidents or wet clothes from outside.

Play Dough Request:

Are you a play dough maker? If so would you consider making some and donating to our classrooms? The kids enjoy this activity for literacy and math activities as well as for creative learning. Please let your student's teacher know if you would be willing to make some! Thanks in advance.

We suggest this great recipe:

Play Dough Recipe:

1 cup white flour
1/2 cup salt
2 tablespoon cream of tartar (find it in the spice section)
1 tablespoon oil
1 cup water
food coloring

Mix first 4 ingredients in a pan. Add water and mix well. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, for 3 – 5 minutes. Dough will become difficult to stir and form a "clump". Remove from stove and knead for 5 minutes—add food coloring during kneading process. Play dough will keep for a long time stored in a covered plastic container or plastic sandwich bag.