

Kindergarten November Newsletter

November 2	NED Assembly
November 16	Early Release at 1
November 22 and 23	No School
November 26	Weidner Center at 10 am

The Colder Weather is coming....

We might not want it to happen but the colder weather is coming. Students are outside for at least 30 minutes each day for recess unless it is below zero. We ask that students have boots, coats, snow pants, hats and mittens/gloves for outside so that they are warm. When they are warm, they enjoy recess significantly more and are able to explore the snow. Please label each item of your students' outside gear so that if lost it can hopefully make it back to the right household. Black snow pants start to look the same in a school full of them!

Also please practice having your child independently get in and out of their winter gear. It is very helpful to us if students understand the sequence of putting on their gear and can somewhat independently dress themselves in it.

Writing

In writing we are working to build an understanding of our writing rubric. We are working to use our automatic words as well as stretch sounds to build unfamiliar words. Our rubric also reminds us to be sure our picture matches our words and that we need to put spaces between our words and add punctuation at the end of the sentence. Asking your child to recall events in sequence is a good way to help them to begin the process of writing about multiple events in their day. Asking them what happened first, then what happened, etc really helps them start to organize their thoughts and really help build their skills for the writing process

Reading

During reading we will continue to build out reading skills. We will work on using our reading strategies with our guided reading books. We will go further into using the picture to look for clues to helping us solve words that we do not know in our books. When we come to a word that we do not know, we will begin to work on looking at all of the parts of the word, this is known as sounding out the word. In our curriculum we say looking at all the parts. Book bag books will continue to come home, please take some time to have your student read them at night. They are so excited to share their reading skills!

Help your child to build a word wall at home to continue practicing the automatic words we are working on at school---I, like, can, eat, see, day, is, in, am, and. It is important that your child can read AND write these words. We continuously add to this list of words so practicing at home will really help your child build their understanding and fluency with these words.

Math

We continue to build on our numeracy through use of graphs and tally marks. Both of these help represent some beginning lessons on addition. We have been really working to have student verbalize their math understanding. So for example if I ask how many people like fall and spring all together based on the results of a graph once the answer is given I will then ask this question "How did you figure that out?" This verbal communication is great for me to gain understanding of not only how they figure out the answer but it is also a teaching point for students who are still working to figure out the answer. It also offers an understanding to the class that often times there is more than one way to figure out the right answer.

Working at home to build on your child's understanding of teen numbers will be very helpful. Please work on quantity of teen numbers, as well as writing and reading teen numbers.

Content

Quilts- We will begin a short unit on quilts. Through this work we will look at the patterns in quilts. The patterns lend themselves nicely to look at shapes to create a larger picture. Through this study we will also be able to compare the past to the present when we look at the tools and process of making a quilt. We will have some great discussion on teamwork and how quilt making events take a lot of community involvement to put together a quilt.

Community Helpers- Students will be learning about different people in our community that help us. They will be learning about firefighters and the fire station, police officers, doctors, nurses and the hospital, teachers, dentists, construction workers and many many more. After they learn about how they help our community they will be applying their new knowledge to a project surrounding that profession.

Seasons- We will be learning about why the seasons change and how the Earth's rotation affects the weather. We will be making different art related activities for each season and talk about the different activities we do during each season.