

Kindergarten Newsletter

Mrs. Gabriel's Class

April 9, 2010

Reading--

We continue to work on blending and segmenting words and counting the number of syllables or parts of a word. We also are working on really knowing the high frequency words and being able to read them fluently (easily and quickly) in sentences. Our theme in reading is "Here Comes Spring". Our favorite story this week was "Mrs. McNosh Hangs Up the Wash". This silly story is full of rhyming words and silly pictures and the kids loved it!

Math—

We are doing well with our unit on addition. We will take the unit test on that next week and move on to subtraction. We still continue to work on naming and knowing the value of coins, counting aloud to 100, counting backward from 20, and counting by 5's and 10's. It is also important to continue working on writing numbers to at least 50 and being able to read and write two digit numbers like 24 and 39 and 47.

West Carroll Education Foundation—

Our Kindergarten Camping Basket is really neat! It actually has a value of over \$200. It contains a tent, cooler, camping lantern, makings for s'mores, firestarters, a tablecloth, two sleeping bags, a shovel, a campfire grill as well as many other items. You can view this and the other grade level baskets on Monday night from 5:30-7:30 at our K and 3rd Grade Open House and Music Program. Raffle tickets are \$1 or 6 for \$5 and the winners will be announced on WCCI on the West Carroll Education Foundation Radiothon on Friday, April 23. Our class will tape something next week and the Primary School will be featured from 9-10 on the Radiothon. The Foundation really does provide lots of money for mini-grants which do enhance the educational program for your kids. Some past projects of the Foundation have been computers, literacy games, books, Books for Babies program, a Take Home Bags program, and many other projects. Please consider

sending in or calling in a donation on the 23rd. Any amount is welcome!

Kindergarten Open House and Music Program

Monday, April 12

Open House from 5:30 to 6:15

Music program from 6:30 to approx. 7:30

Basket Raffles Available

Children should dress in a jungle theme, if possible, or nice clothes.

Let your child show you around our room and the school from 5:30-6:15. Please do not leave your child in the room unsupervised until 6:15. At 6:15, the children and I will line up to go to the gym to start our part of the program.

You will get your child from me at the end of the program. (location to be announced)

Tea Party Coming Up!

We will have a Tea Party on Thursday, April 15 as part of our unit on Manners. Children will dress up in things like mom's dress and high heels, dad's suit or shirt and tie, grandpa or grandma's hat, fancy jewelry, purses, etc.. We have fancy refreshments and use our best manners at this "grown up" party. Our Tea Party will be from after gym at 1:30 until about 2:40. Who knows, we may even have some dancing going on. And I always like to announce the fancy clothes everyone wears during our "Fashion Show". It really is a lot of fun and a good way to practice good manners.



Newsletter continued on the back---

Pirates--

We had fun reading several books about pirates this week. We made a book we can read about pirates and talked about their clothing. We drew pirates, colored a pirate ship, put our face on a little pirate we colored, made a spyglass and pirate hat, and went on a treasure hunt. Be sure to ask if we found the treasure?! There is a lot of new vocabulary in this unit and the kids are excited to learn about some of these new words—pegleg, treasure, chest, crow's next, buccaneer, barnacles, eye patch, etc..

Next Week—Manners

Monday, April 12-Lunch Money, Music, Program Practice, Mrs. Foltz Literacy Lesson, Open House and Music Program 5:30—be here by at least 6:15 for the music program

Tuesday, April 13- Computer, Art, Gym,

Wednesday, April 14- Library—Book Fair, Music, Gym

Thursday, April 15- Art, Gym

Friday, April 16 - Music, Gym

Snack Next Week—

Monday-

Tuesday-

Wednesday-

Thursday-

Friday-

Helpers Next Week-

Monday-Tara Huizenga

Tuesday-Jenn Reagan

Wednesday-Brenda Preston

Thursday-Cara Smith

Friday-Sarah Murphy

End of the Year--

It is so hard to believe how close we are to the end of the year! I will check the children on end of the year benchmarks in May. If I have concerns about your child's learning and placement for next year, I will contact you for a conference. If you would like a conference to

discuss your child's progress, please contact me to set one up. If you received a note inviting your child to Summer School, please return it Monday—they were due on the 9th.

Fun Days Coming Up--

We are planning several fun activities for the end of the year. We will take a field trip to **Niabi Zoo** in Coal Valley on Wednesday, May 12. I will be contacting a few trained volunteers to go along as helpers. We can only take so many as free chaperones and other adults must pay \$2 admission. We will also need to be sure there is room on the bus for the adults.

We will have **Kindergarten Picnic and Activity Day** at Old Mill Park on Thursday, May 20. We will be asking for lots of help for this fun day. We also hope to do a short unit on the ocean and beach at the end of May and hope to have a **Beach Party** where the kids can wear their swim suits and we will do some special activities and play on the playground as we pretend it is a big beach!

Book Fair--

The library will be open for the Book Fair from 4:30 till 6:00 on Monday and Tuesday nights.

We will also go to the Book Fair on Wednesday during our Library Time -8:30-9:00 if you want to send money for your child to buy a book.

Ag in the Classroom--

Melinda visited with us on Thursday and read a book called April Foolishness. This book was a perfect lead in for talking about where products we use really come from. Corn flakes from corn, clothes from the cotton plant, bacon from pigs, eggs from chickens, steak from cows, yarn for sweaters from sheep, and so on. It is always amazing to me how the children really do not have these connections and must be taught about them. The children made a bracelet about all the farm places in the story.