



January News

Character Trait: Honesty



Well, here it is almost January 2019. It does not seem possible that the school year is already half over. Hopefully, we will not have any snow days to prolong the school year. However, we never know what the winter months will bring!

I want to let you know that we will be changing the behavior plan that we use in the classroom for second semester. We will really be trying to work on behavior for the rest of the school year and to help the children when they enter first grade. Beginning January 3rd the first and second circles will earn a yellow apple and the third one will earn a red apple. If your child receives a red apple, they will also lose their snack for that day. In addition, for the first day with three circles (in a one-week period Mon.-Fri.), your child will miss 5 minutes of recess the following day (unless the three circles are before recess), the second day with three circles, 10 minutes of recess, the third day, 15 minutes of recess, the fourth day, 20 minutes, and the fifth day, the entire recess (which would be served on Monday). Also, if your child's behavior warrants their missing the entire recess, a detailed note will be sent home to you explaining the misbehavior.

One of the skills that needs to be developed before and during Kindergarten is fine motor skills. That is one of the reasons that we do a great deal of writing, coloring, and cutting in Kindergarten. When I send home work that is not completed during the day or work due to your child's absence, the pages need to be completed fully. That includes all **writing, cutting, and coloring**. I am having many pages returned to me without the pages being colored. When pages are returned to school that are not completed, they will be returned for your child to complete at home. Thank you for helping your child with the task of writing, cutting, and coloring the pages completely.

We still have several students that cannot tie their own shoes or zip their coat. Please practice this skill over Christmas Break. While these skills are no longer listed on the Kindergarten Report Card, students should know how to tie their own shoes and zip their own coat at this age level.

We will be administering NWEA testing beginning in January. I do not have an exact schedule of the days and times that our class will be completing the testing at this time. We are counting on each child improving their score from the August testing session.

The Report Card Checklists have been completed. We have some students which have attained all of the skills on the report card for this grading period. Some students only missed a "perfect" report card by one or two skills. In order to have a "perfect" report card, all of the skills must have a check mark in the box. A check/minus or a minus sign does not count as attaining the skill. Report cards for first semester will be sent home on Friday, January 4th. You will once again receive a copy of the report card. You are to keep the copy and pages contained inside the report card and return only the signed envelope. We will follow the same procedure during the second semester. You will receive a copy of the Report Card for the third nine-week grading period. At the end of the school year, you will receive the original Report Card which will contain the checklists for all four grading periods.

During January, we will be studying many of the same skills that we covered first semester. However, there will be a few additional skills. The literacy and math skills that we will be covering during January are listed on the attached sheet. Please review these skills with your child at home.

Earlier in the school year, we sent home a form with your child's student ID number on it. This is the number that the cafeteria uses for your child's lunch account. The cafeteria ladies have been kind enough to give the Kindergarten students the first semester to practice their numbers before beginning to use them on the computer the second semester. At some point after we return from Christmas Break the children will be typing in their student ID at lunch time. If you have not practiced the number with your child, please do so. We are sending home another copy of your child's ID number in his/her purple folder today.

We will be beginning Show-and-Tell on Friday, January 11th. Show-and-Tell will be each Friday unless we have another special event scheduled (ex. 100 Day, Field trips, etc.). Your child can bring **one** item for Show-and-Tell. We will work this into our day on Fridays, and each child will receive a turn to either show and/or tell something.

On January 18th, we will have been in school 100 days unless we have snow days between now and then. We will celebrate 100 day on that Friday. We will be writing our numbers to 100, counting by 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s to 100, and other activities pertaining to 100 Day. Also, we are asking that your child bring a bag of 100 items by January 11th. This can be pennies, macaroni, seeds, M&Ms, or any items as long it is all the same thing. We will be sending more information regarding 100 Day once we return from Christmas Break as well as a baggie to send the 100 items to school. This will be our Show-and-Tell for Friday, January 18th, so your child will not need to bring any other item for Show-and-Tell that day.

We will continue with the Pizza Hut Book-It Program. Several of our students have turned in their form each month. I hope that all of our class will have turned in their form each of the six months (October-March) that the program is offered. The children look forward to getting their certificate for the free Personal Pan Pizza. Each child who returns all six of the Book-It forms by the end of March will be able to participate in our Pizza Party held during lunch sometime in May. Thank you for helping your child with this program. It is very beneficial to their future reading success. As a note, if you lose the form, please just write the four books that your child read on a piece of paper, sign it, and return it to school.

Please read with and encourage your child to read at home. Math skills are also very important as we develop our knowledge of money (coins), time, measuring, patterning, number words, writing numbers to 100, and number skills. We are also beginning to write addition and subtraction sentences.

We will be sending home information regarding Kindergarten graduation in the future. For those of you that need to plan ahead, the date we have scheduled is Friday, May 3rd. It will be held at 1:00 in the gym. The children will be wearing purple caps and gowns for this event. Last year's cost was \$26.00. The information that we send home second semester will include the price for the cap and gown for this year.

Please remember to save the Box Tops for Education. These can be found on many items such as Kleenex (brand name), cereal, flour, breakfast bars, etc. Please cut out the box tops and send them to school with your child's name on the paper or baggie. If our class turns in the most box tops for each grading period, we will receive a pizza party! Thank you to all of you that have been returning the Box Tops to school with your child!

I am really excited to see the children return. It will be interesting to see how much they have retained over Christmas Break. We will begin our week with a review of letters and letter sounds to refresh their memories as well as working with three-letter words, sight words, etc.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Mrs. Collins

Dates to Remember:

January 3 – Return from Christmas Break
Second Semester Begins

January 4 – Report Cards Sent Home

January 11 - Show & Tell Begins

January 18 – 100 Day – Bring in 100 items in baggies to be sent home
after Christmas Break

Future Dates to Remember:

April 11th – Kindergarten Graduation Pictures

April 12th – Kindergarten Field Trip to Bouncin' Barn and Deming Park

May 3rd – Kindergarten Graduation @ 1:00 in the gym

Kindergarten Skills That Will Be Covered During January

The literacy skills that we will cover during this month will include the following:

- Recognize and print all upper and lower case letters
- Recognition of all letter sounds
- Follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page
- Distinguish letters from words
- Recognize sentences are made up of words
- Spell simple words phonetically
- Recognize and produce rhyming words
- Count and state the number of syllables in words
- Stating the beginning, middle, and final sounds in three-letter words
- Blend three-letter words
- Blend and segment onsets and rimes (ex. man = /m/+an)
- Add or substitute words to make new words such as man-pan
- Read high-frequency words
- Read emergent text fluently
- Identify front/back the role of the author and illustrator
- Identify the main idea of a story
- Write from left to right across a page
- Write using pictures
- Write using pictures and letters
- Write using pictures, letters, and words
- Draw and/or write for a specific topic
- Capitalize the first words in a sentence
- Recognize and name end punctuation
- State school and classroom rules
- Describe places in the school and community
- Describe jobs done in the community
- Describe and object by saying how it is similar or different from another
- Describe plants and animals
- Describe the changes in weather during each season
- Recite days of the week and months of the year
- Read and write first and last name
- Recognize 11 colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, white, pink, & gray)
- Asks questions to seek information
- Asks appropriate questions about what a speak says
- Recite poems, rhymes, and songs

The math skills that we will cover this month will include the following:

Count orally by ones and tens (goal: ones – 100, tens - 60)

Recognize and write numbers 0 to 20

Match numbers of objects with a written numeral from 0 to 20

Compare greater than, less than, or equal to from 0-20

Create and extend patterning

Recognize number words from 0-10

Compare lengths and weights of objects

Two-dimensional shapes: square, circle, oval, triangle,
rectangle, hexagon, diamond

Three-dimensional shapes: cube, cone, cylinder, sphere

Represent/solve addition/subtraction problems with sums and
differences to 10

Represent numbers using groups of tens and ones