

Kindergarten Chronicles

September 21, 2018

We had a great full week in kindergarten! The three kindergarten classes all spent a lot of time this week discussing and practicing our rules and routines. The students learned how to eat lunch in the cafeteria, how to walk quietly in the hall, and other various school routines. They are all doing a wonderful job and are adjusting to school very quickly. The beginning of the year can be overwhelming and exhausting for little ones. Please make sure they get to bed at an early time and have a little extra time to relax during the weekends.

We began Reader's Workshop this week. During our first lesson, children learned that readers, look with their eyes, think with their brains, and read! We took a walk around the school to read the environmental print. The children were so excited to read words such as: exit, mail, women, men, gym, music, etc. We then read around our classroom and they were so proud to read each other's names, different types of materials in our room and table numbers. During our second lesson, we reviewed that readers look, think, read and added on that they read to learn about the world. The children spent time "reading" non-fiction books to learn about different animals, different places, and different people. They were excited to share what they had learned while reading. On our last lesson of the week, children learned the routine of how to read with a partner. We talked about how a partner can help you learn more as well as some positive partner behaviors. We are looking forward to reading more next week!

In Foundations, we worked on lowercase letters **f** and **b**. The children continued the routine of saying the letter, picture, sound for all letters but focusing on the f and b sound. They practiced making these letters in their notebooks and white boards. We sent home information regarding these letters in the beginning of the week. Please make sure to review this information and continue to practice with your child-especially the correct pencil grip! Thank you for your support!

This week in math, the children were introduced to the counting jar. This is a jar filled with a number of objects that the children counted, double checked, created an equivalent set, and recorded. They all did great learning this new math routine. Last week the children explored attribute blocks and buttons. This week, the children worked in partners to sort these by attributes (ex: buttons by color, shape, number of holes, etc.). They enjoyed working together to complete these tasks. We started our Question of the Day this week. Each morning, there is a question that the children have to check in to answer. We work together as a class to analyze this data to find out which answer has more and which one has less. They enjoyed learning this new routine!

Many of the children brought home their first mini book this week. These books reinforce our sight words. The children read it multiple times in class. Please make sure they read this book to you and you praise them for their great reading! It is important to continue to practice these books over the year so find a special folder or space to keep them so your child can continue to work on these words.

We hope you enjoy a wonderful weekend with your children! Perhaps many of you will be attending our **Back to School Bash** tomorrow, sponsored by our PAC. It is sure to be a great time to get to know the families of your children's classmates. The PAC does so much for Highlands School!

The Kindergarten Team

Updates and Reminders:

- Tomorrow is the Back to School Bash from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. right here at Highlands!
- Open House will be held on Tuesday, September 25, 2013 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. This meeting is for adults only so that we may speak to you more about classroom procedures, expectations, and kindergarten curriculum. We look forward to seeing you!
- If you haven't already done so, please send in a change of clothing for your child "just in case." Simply put a shirt, pants, socks and underwear in a large, labeled Ziploc bag labeled with your child's name. Thank you!
- Once the weather finally gets cooler, please dress your child appropriately for outdoor play. We go out for recess as long as it isn't raining.
- Also, please remember that your children **MUST** wear sneakers in order to play on the playground equipment. This rule will keep your children safer as they climb, slide, and run during recess. Thank you!
- Thank you all so much for remembering that our classrooms are nut-free for snacks. We appreciate your thoughtfulness!

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Please feel free to contact us with any questions!

Highlands Website:

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