# Mrs. Donovan's Weekly News

January 11, 2019



### Greetings from our classroom...

It was a productive first full week of 2019 in Kindergarten! Between Writers' Workshop and our family books, the students are writing up a storm. It is amazing how weth they are doing hearing and stretching out letter sounds. I am currently working on Math and Literacy assessments and it is wonderful to see how much they have learned so far this year!

# Social Studies – Learning About Families...

#### Having Fun with Math!

This week the students explored attribute blocks. We discussed all of the different attributes they noticed, such as shape, size, and width. In small groups, the students sorted the blocks according to different rules. We also created a bar graph of everyone's favorite colors. Ask your child to tell you which colors were the most and the least popular in our class.

This week, our Family unit is in full swing. We read a story about different families and talked a lot about our own families. The students loved hearing about how many people are in our families and the things many families like to do together. Each student is now writing and illustrating a book with one page for each member of his/her family. Everyone also made beautiful family portraits for us to hang on our bulletin boards. We will be attaching the family photos I requested. Thank you to those who have already sent in the photos. They are all lovely. If you have not yet sent in a family portrait, please try to do so in the next day or two.

## This week in Literacy...

The class was excited to learn that we would be studying 3 new letters this week in Fundations. We practiced the sounds and letter formation for h, k, and l. In three more weeks we will have learned all of the letters and sounds! Our next focus will be practicing how to blend individual sounds into short CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words, an important pre-reading skill.

# **Open Circle Update**

Recently during Open Circle, we have talked about different kinds of feelings and behaviors. Students are learning how to identify feelings, like when they are feeling angry, and some strategies that can make them feel better, such as calm breathing. We also talked about recognizing the types of behaviors at school that they should report to an adult as opposed to situations they can problem-solve more independently.

## Reminders for Next Week:



The students are doing a great job managing all of their own belongings, which is so tricky during the winter weather when they have hats, gloves, boots, etc. Thank you so much for all of the work you have done to help your children be more independent with their gear. It makes it so much easier for us to get outside for good recess time! We appreciate it greatly.

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