

Mrs. Donovan's Weekly News

November 30, 2018



Greetings from our classroom...

Wow! Can you believe tomorrow it is December? Thursday, as we did our calendar math, we realized it was Day 60 of school. One third of the year has flown by! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I know that many of you had excellent new holiday decorations for your family table with our plump paper bag turkeys and colorful woven placemats.



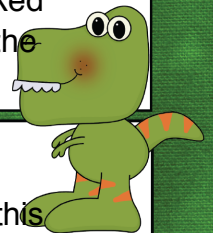
Halfway through the Alphabet...

This week in *Foundations*, we worked with the letters D and S. We have now practiced 13 letters, including most of the vowels. The students are doing an amazing job retaining their letter sounds as well as practicing how to rhyme. We read *Sheep on a Ship* and afterwards, students spent a lot of time sharing rhymes with one another.

Having Fun with Math!

This week the students practiced solving number stories for the first time. They learned that there are many different strategies they can use to solve them, including drawing pictures, using counters and using their fingers. We told stories such as "I had 2 cookies, then my friend gave me 3 more. How many cookies do I have now?" Those are great kinds of stories to practice at home.

We also played a fun game this week called "Spill the Beans" in which the children worked together to find smaller numbers to make ten. Many of them are catching on quickly to the basic combinations of numbers such as 3+7, 5+5, and 4+6.



Native American Culture

On Monday, we explored another element of Native American Culture. We learned about all of the different kinds of homes Native Americans have lived in over the past few centuries and what kinds of materials tribes used to make those homes. The students did a great job sketching their own versions of Tipis, Longhouses and Wigwams.

Exploring Art Supplies...

We explored many fun art materials this week in Kindergarten. The students did a crayon/watercolor resist spider web to celebrate the letter S on Monday. Then today we read the colorful story *Swimmy* by Leo Lionni. The students created their own beautiful fish using bright pastel crayons. Many said it was their favorite kind of drawing utensil so far! We will create a bulletin board of colorful fish next week.

Reminders for Next Week:

Cold Weather Reminder: The chilly air arrived very early this year. Please try to send in your child with hats and gloves every day as we will go outside most days. Also, if anyone would like me to send home the bag of extra clothes you brought in case they were needed so that you can restock it with warmer clothes, just let me know. I am happy to do that. 😊

