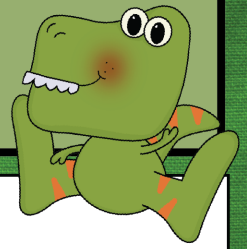


Mrs. Donovan's Weekly News

March 29, 2019



Greetings from our classroom...

March is finally coming to a close. Today was day 132 in our classroom – the year is really flying by now. The students are working so hard to develop strong literacy, math and writing skills. They are starting to read books, write longer stories and count past 100 – wow! It is truly amazing to watch how they have developed academically, socially and emotionally over the course of these past several months.

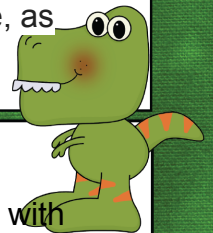


Having Fun with Math!

We continued our exploration of shapes by introducing 3 dimensional shapes. We even created a Shape Museum. Some students brought in items from home to add to our museum. We also played a game called “What’s my sorting rule fishing.” One person would “fish” for students using only one sorting rule, such as anyone wearing stripes or having Velcro shoes. We had to guess the sorting rule. It was fun!

Spring Planting Has Begun!

We were able to start our spring planting unit in Science this week and we made some exciting discoveries. Each student planted one type of seed on Monday. The four choices were peas, bean, pumpkin, and sunflower. Students have been diligently watering and observing their plants each day. We are expecting that when we return to school on Monday, we will see signs of growth and maybe some stems starting to sprout! The students are drawing detailed observations of their plants every few days to record the changes they see and we are using almost all of our senses to explore the seeds and plants - all but taste, as one friend pointed out. He explained to the class that that would not be a good idea. 😊



Aquarium Visit...

We had a great visit from the New England Aquarium yesterday. Our guest brought several animals that all live within the ecosystem of tide pools. The students learned all about hermit crabs (the kind that live in water, unlike our class pet) clams, giant snails and sea stars. Then we all got to touch the creatures under water. Some were rough while others were smooth. The snails each had one giant foot that was really slimy. That was an instant favorite with my friends! 😊

Open Circle Update

The students have done well all year with our Open Circle lessons. The last big unit we do is about how to solve the kinds of problems Kindergarteners often face: someone takes the toy one is playing with, someone says something hurtful in class, etc. Ask your child to explain how we are utilizing the image of a traffic light, with each color representing a step towards better problem-solving.

Reminders for Next Week:

On Tuesday, April 2 there is **no school** for students as it is Parent-Teacher Conference Day. I look forward to meeting with many of you that day.

Students may continue to bring in items for our 3D Shapes Museum for the next few weeks. We will keep them on display until April vacation. I will send home photos at that time. 😊

