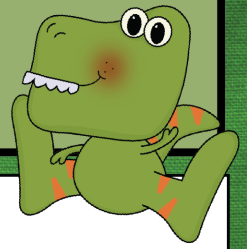


# Mrs. Donovan's Weekly News

May 17, 2019



## Greetings from our classroom...

Wow! We are officially in our final month of Kindergarten. 19 school days left. It is hard to believe. We had lots of fun this week exploring 3D shapes through our marshmallow and toothpick designs (sorry if they were sticky) and practicing digraphs such as "sh" by reading *Clark the Shark* and creating beautiful shimmering sharks.



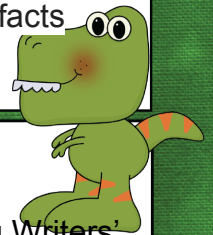
## Growing Literacy Skills...

It is wonderful to observe now when I call for quiet reading time that students select books of interest and spend time really reading the pages or focusing on the words and challenging themselves to use the clues on the page to decode each word. They are tapping out sounds and recognizing sight words regularly and are so proud of the skills they have acquired.

## Having Fun with Math!

Please keep continuing to send in bottle caps – our collection is really growing. This week we were discussing the importance of learning to **count on** from higher numbers and our collection is a perfect real world example of why that skill is important. We practiced counting on from numbers as low as 5 all the way up to 79!

This week, we also played *Dice Subtraction* and practiced writing take-away number stories. The students realized that the larger number always comes first in a subtraction story. They worked hard using both fingers and manipulatives to practice learning their subtraction facts to five.



## New additions to our classroom...

We welcomed more living creatures into our classroom this week. We have an aquarium of guppies and aquatic snails and the students have spent the last few days observing their behavior. Students noticed that the female guppies are much larger than the male guppies. I am impressed with how much the students already know about fish and the questions they would like to have answered during our unit.

## Writers' Workshop Update

The students are hard at work during Writers Workshop preparing stories to share with families at our upcoming class breakfast on June 4<sup>th</sup>. They are always excited to share their stories with classmates at the end of WW each time. During his/her turn, the student uses a microphone, reads each page to the class and then shows the drawings as well. Their confidence as writers is really growing.

## Reminders for Next Week:

This Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, will be our field trip to Great Meadows. Please follow the guidelines sent in the nurse's letter home (attached to this week's email) regarding sunscreen, bug spray and proper dress. The other important thing to mention is that every student will need to bring a disposable (brown bag) snack that morning, as we will be eating snack at Great Meadows. No reusable items please. Please label the brown bag with your child's name. Thanks so much! We are looking forward to a fun adventure!

