



The K2 News
Monday, February 6, 2012
Q3 Week 6!

Dear Families,

WOW! Week 6 of the 3rd quarter is upon us. I have just a few friendly reminders to review:

Uniforms and Nail polish

Growth spurts are upon us, especially at this point in the school year. Please take time to review your child's uniform. Hems need to be "within 3 inches as measured from the back of the knee (crease.)" Nail polish needs to be removed; I would recommend "toes" as possible polish solution!

7:20 supervised play in the field...7:45 am – the K2 doors open!

Kinders need time to acclimate to the classroom community (that is a "fancy shmancy" way to say that they need time to chat with their peers while organizing their materials for the day.) Arriving at 7:55 is fine if your kinder is a swift unpacker and does not need to chat. I would like to encourage you all to aim for a 7:45 or 7:50 arrival at the latest. Thank you!

Last Minute/Same day Changes in Pickup

Please contact the front office to notify us if you need to make any last minute changes to your kinder's pickup! This request is found in the calendar handbook (page 18.)

I am not able to see my computer's desktop alerts while I am teaching/using the whiteboard (most of the day.) I do check my email before school (6am), before lunch (not consistently) and before I leave at the end of the day (always!) Our server often takes extra time to filter and deliver emails. Thank you for your understanding – I want to keep your child safe!



St. Valentine's Day is coming!

Please send in ONE brown paper sack (grocery sack) this week. These will be transformed into MAILBOXES!

If you would like to donate "decorations" for our mailboxes, you may send these in as well (stickers, foams, scraps of ribbons, etc.)



Exchanging Valentine Cards! IMPORTANT!

Please do not have your kinder address their cards to anyone. This way, your kinder will just have to pass out ONE card to each mailbox!

Your kinder should bring in **23** signed with their name cards. Yes, I know that they only need 22 to pass to their friends, but it is often difficult to remember to skip their own mailbox...and that last K kid misses some valentines!



SHAMROCK FARMS FIELD TRIP NEWS



The big yellow bus will be coming for us on Tuesday! Wahoo! Here are some reminders:

1. Disposable lunch – totally! No glass, please. We will have a special dessert at the farm (dairy and non-dairy options are available.) No extra water bottles are needed as there are lots of water fountains!
2. It is a long drive. We will ALL visit the restroom before boarding the bus (both ways) at least twice. Really!

3. Dress Code- Mr. Colao has approved **JEANS** (not shorts, but long legged jeans) for this trip along with our uniform shirt and uniform sneakers (highly recommended) or shoes.
4. We are mostly riding in the shaded tram thingy...so no sunglasses, hats, etc. We want to travel 'light.'
5. I will try to take as many pictures as possible and I will share these with you all! I know that there is one terrific photo opportunity right before lunch.

Now, back to learning!

Religion:

We will work on Chapter 11: Jesus is the Son of God. We will review the Trinity and learn about the 2 parts of the Bible. If your kinder has a Bible (family or their own), they are welcome to bring it in to share with the class. We will discuss how the early writers recorded God's ideas and the life of Jesus on scrolls in Greek! We will make a simple scroll!

Our Bible stories will be Jesus Reads the Scriptures and The Woman at the Well. We are also working on learning to sing the mass responses in our Wednesday K sing/prayer time and during our Music class with Mrs. McLaughlin.

Literacy:

We will finish Unit 6: Neighborhood this week and take the unit assessment. Thank you for reading those little copied mini-books with your kinder. I have been sending these 'harder' decodable readers home as part of your kinder's homework packet. Reading and rereading these texts will help your child develop fluency (reading with an appropriate rate and minimal errors while allowing for full comprehension of the text.) This is a KEY skill for first grade.

Mathematics:

We finished our unit on number order and are moving on to measurement, with linear (length/height) and then weight/capacity. In kinder, we will use non-standard units (like unifix cubes, centimeter strips, etc.) to measure and compare objects.

As we work through this unit, we will also begin to introduce money and time concepts in our Calendar time (which is already full of math thinking!) This week, we will learn the names of all the coins and their value. We will add one cent each day and regroup to "trade" for a nickel...and then a dime....and then a quarter!

In time, we will meet the Judy clock (a moveable clock) and discover how many minutes in an hour. We will compare time units (which is longer – a minute or an hour) and start to connect our daily schedule with analog time. If your child has a watch, they may bring it to school to share during calendar time. They may wear it only if it fits within the uniform code.

Theme: Social Studies

We will move away from Economics for just a bit as we revisit and discuss our farm trip. Then, back to the business of wants versus needs and goods/trades.

Thank you for your continued support! You are terrific to work with!

God bless,
Joan B.