

# Mrs. Tropf's Newsletter

January 31, 2013

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

This has been a busy and fun week of learning and special activities. The day off on Monday came as a surprise, but hopefully you enjoyed the extra time at home with your kindergartner. I really appreciated the extra time at home to catch up on school work and get some extra rest.

On Wednesday your children had the privilege of meeting in person an author and illustrator. We have talked about authors and illustrators in language all year long, so it was great for your children to interact with these talented people "up close and personal"! The illustrator, Rachel Ackerman, is a graduate of TCS, which was even more special. I read two of Diane Terry's books to the class last week and they really enjoyed them.

Next Wednesday we will celebrate **THE 100TH DAY OF SCHOOL !!!!!** We have been anticipating this day for quite some time as we do our daily calendar time. We will celebrate this milestone with several special activities in the classroom. **Please help your child count out 100 items to bring to school in a Ziploc bag.** We will share our items that day during a Show and Tell time. The children will hear humorous stories about the 100th day and enjoy our "Heavenly 100th Day Hash". We'll all have fun celebrating this milestone in our year next Wednesday. (If we happen to have another snow day before Wednesday, the celebration will get moved back a day.)



In Bible next week the theme is "God Promises to Care for My Needs". The children will learn that God promises to provide for them if they trust in Him and live their lives to please Him. Our new memory verse is **Matthew 6:8 "For your Father knows what you need before you ask Him."** I will

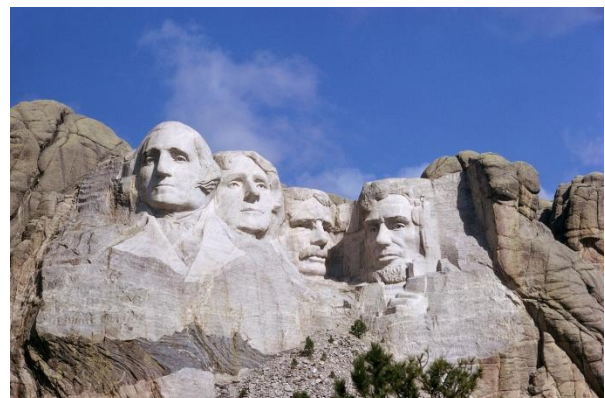
give the children until Friday to prepare the memory verse and recite it to me. In our lessons next week we will discover the importance of the word "promise" and explore some of the teachings of Jesus regarding the promises of God.

How is your child doing with blending and sounding out small words? Is he excited to find sight words in books, magazines, newspapers, and billboards around town? Is he thrilled to be able to read words all by himself? This is the reward for all your hard work at home with the sight word rings! Isn't it fun to see the joy and excitement in your child's face as he masters a skill? Continue to drill those sight words and encourage your child to sound out three and four letter words until it comes easily. The more he reads aloud, the better he will get, and the more he'll want to read to you. It's a sure recipe for success.

Speaking of sight words, here is the list for February:

**RUN AWAY THREE MAKE BUT  
BLACK BROWN HELP DOWN THERE  
WHERE WHAT WHY WHO ONE TWO  
PUT**

Because February is the month when we celebrate Presidents' Day the children will be learning interesting things about Abraham Lincoln and George Washington in the coming weeks. Soon we will begin coloring a story book on the life of Abe Lincoln. I will be sharing interesting stories about these two great Americans and we will make stick puppets as a follow-up activity to the stories about these famous presidents.



February is Black History Month at TCS and we will be learning about famous African Americans- past and present-who made a difference in our country. I will be reading stories about famous African-American achievers and teach the children about their contributions to American culture. Did your child tell you what he learned about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.? Last week they heard stories about Dr. King and watched a video showing his delivery of the famous "I Have a Dream" speech in Washington, D. C.

Remember that our class Valentine's Day party is Thursday, February 14, in the afternoon. Contact Mrs. Seiler if you can donate materials or help in the classroom that afternoon. Your child will need 19 valentines. (There are 20 students in the class but he will not be giving himself a valentine.) Please do NOT write any names on the outside of the envelopes. It will be easier to pass out the valentines without any names on the envelopes. You do not need to prepare a box or bag because the children will do that in class the day of the party.



Our next Kindergarten Star of the Week will be Braden Munn.

Send the sight word ring and plastic purse in the BEE folder on Monday and I'll add new words. Thanks!

In science we have been learning about living things and I've been doing a differentiated instruction unit on plants and animals. The children have enjoyed the learning center activities, videos, stories, and hands-on activities throughout this unit. This week they made a habitat for land animals and will soon make one for water animals. This all adds up to exciting learning for your future scientists! In conjunction with our study of animals, I've invited the Toledo Zoo Ed team to visit our class on February 28 to present their program on animal coverings. The children will get to handle many biofacts and even interact with some live animals. It will keep them engaged and wanting to learn

more about God's magnificent creatures and how He cares for them.

### A LOOK AHEAD:

1. February 4--LATE START DAY Students must arrive by 10:15 or be counted tardy.
2. February 12--Mrs. McIntyre visits--A different community helper!
3. February 14-- Valentine party in the afternoon
4. February 16--Open House 1:00-3:00
5. February 18--NO SCHOOL
6. February 21--Family Math Night 5:30-7:00
7. February 28--Toledo Zoo Ed van comes to present animal coverings program

Have a great February weekend and enjoy a good book together. Don't forget the hot chocolate and the hugs!!

Blessings,  
Mrs. Tropsf

P.S. You may turn in your January reading log on Monday. Keep up the good work of reading to your child for 15 minutes every day.