

Mrs. Tropf's Newsletter

November 1, 2012

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

I want to thank you for making the effort to attend our conference time last week. It was a pleasure to talk to each of you. I trust our time together was an encouragement and adequately addressed your concerns and/or questions. Please feel free to contact me any time you have questions about your child's behavior or school work. Open lines of communication are vital in the relationship between home and school. Working together as a team, we can help your son or daughter develop his/her fullest potential this year in kindergarten. You are a great group of parents and I appreciate your support of my discipline system, your encouragement, and your prayers on my behalf. You are a blessing to me and I thank the Lord for you and your precious children.

As a follow-up to our discussion at conference time, let me mention a few things for you to reinforce with your child. Please stress to your child the importance of NOT TALKING WHEN MRS. TROPF IS TALKING !!!!! It is vitally important that the children learn to wait patiently and quietly until they get permission to talk during class time. They need to remember that ONLY ONE PERSON TALKS AT A TIME. This rule applies whether we are on the floor in circle time or at our desks doing written lessons. When we are on the story rug, the children are expected to sit in one spot with hands and feet to themselves. These are rules for being a good listener and developing good listeners is one of my main goals for this kindergarten year. Kindergartners are social creatures who love to talk, but they need to learn when it's appropriate to talk in class and when it's not appropriate. Thanks for going over these rules at home and encouraging your son or daughter to obey them every day in class.

On the academic front, please periodically review the Letter People sounds and their special characteristics so they stay fresh in your child's mind. Continue to drill the monthly sight words as well as the word cards on the sight word rings. Have your child spend ten minutes a night practicing handwriting. Practicing numbers 0-20 and the capital and lowercase letters for the Letter

People we've met in class will be beneficial to your student. Help your child learn to write his name correctly (only the first letter capitalized) and then write his last name correctly. If your child is struggling and frustrated with handwriting, this extra practice at home will bring improvement and boost his confidence. This practice time will help develop fine motor skills and pay big dividends in the classroom as we move forward with our writing this year. For math, please continue to review ordinal numbers to tenth, left and right, number recognition to 20, concept words like *more, less, greater, fewer, smaller, one and two more, one and two fewer*, and number sequence on a number line. These skills are foundational as we continue working in second quarter and acquire new concepts and skills. Thank you so much for investing time and effort in your kindergartner. It sends a message to your child that he is loved and very valuable!! It also tells him that education is very important to all of you.



In our Bible time next week we will continue our study of choices and how good choices bring good results, but bad choices bring bad results. The class will hear the story of the fall of man when Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. Our new memory verse for next week is **Romans 3:23:** **“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”** We will also continue memorizing Psalm 100 from the New International Version for Thanksgiving. Attached to the Oct. 18 newsletter was a copy of Psalm 100 for you to use at home with your child. Please practice with your child at home so we can accomplish this goal before Thanksgiving. Thank you so much!

In language arts we will catch up in Open Court, but proceed with meeting two new Letter People. The children will meet Mr. B, who has Beautiful Buttons, and Mr. Z, who has Zipping Zippers. SSSSHHHH!!!! Don't tell!! It's fun to anticipate who will visit us from Letter People Land and be surprised when the new Letter People arrive in Toledo. (smile!)

On Monday your children met a very unusual community helper---"Sam", the Hospice dog, and Mrs. Paul, a doctor and the mother of Michael in our class. Dr. Paul told about her job as a doctor and how Sam helps the patients in her care at Hospice. It was a very memorable and unique learning experience for your child.

Our math next week will involve more work in Chapter 5, focusing on numbers 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20. The children will practice counting, reading, and writing these numbers, do some review work, then take a test on the chapter on Friday.

Since next Tuesday is Election Day, we will be discussing the importance and meaning of Election Day in America and participate in our own kindergarten mock election. The children will make campaign posters to advertise their favorite video on Monday. On Tuesday they will vote in our voting booth and use a ballot to vote for their favorite video. The "official" results will be announced in class on Wednesday. Hopefully this simple mock election will teach your child a little bit about the democratic process of voting and help him better understand this patriotic duty and responsibility.



Our next Kindergarten Star of the Week will be Audrey Wolniewicz.

Remember to be working on a costume for your little Indian or Pilgrim because we'll step back in time on November 16. That means there won't be any TCS uniforms in Plymouth. (smile!) If you plan to donate goodies or supplies for our special activities or help in the classroom that morning, please contact Mrs. Harvey ASAP. She is in charge of our class party the morning of the feast. Your child will not need a snack or a lunch that day. We

anticipate a wonderful morning of celebration and fun as we do special activities in the classroom and then share a feast with the other elementary classes. **Keep in mind that November 16, the day of the feast, is a half day of school for your child.** Dismissal will begin around 11:45 that morning.



Our class will be working on a community service project very soon. I'd like to know if any of our kindergarten families have immediate family members who are currently serving our country in any branch of the military. If so, please call me or email me with that information by TOMORROW!! It is important that I get your information so I can decide on the project and get started on it ASAP.

Reminders:

Scholastic Book Club orders and money are due on Monday, November 5. Make checks out to Scholastic Book Clubs.

Please turn in your October nightly reading record sheet (15 minutes per night) ASAP.

Keep working on the Macaw level (Level1) of the Reading Eagles program and turn in your record sheet as soon as your child reads 25 books. He will receive a special award in chapel for his hard work. Awards are presented in chapel the first Thursday of every month.

Note: If you arrive after 8:15 you must take your child to the office, sign him in, get a tardy slip, and walk him down to the classroom. See the elementary handbook regarding this policy. This procedure is for your child's safety and protection. Thanks so much!

Have a great autumn weekend and a meaningful time of worship in God's house on Sunday.

November blessings,
Mrs. Tropf