

# Mrs. Tropf's Newsletter

April 11, 2013

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

We have had a busy week of working on our stories for Young Authors Night, which is coming up on May 2. The creative juices are flowing and my little authors/illustrators are hard at work on their rough drafts. This is a HUGE undertaking, so keep us in your prayers as we work on this project and try to complete it in time for the big evening in May.



Next week in Bible the children will learn how Jesus was an example of gentleness. I will tell the story of Jesus and the children taken from Matthew 19:13-15. **Our new memory verse is Matthew 11:29: "For I am gentle and humble in heart."** Verses must be learned by Thursday so I can hear the children recite them to me.

We begin a new chapter in math called "Identifying and Describing Shapes". Next week the class will work with rectangles, squares, circles, triangles, and hexagons. Bring on the pattern blocks and tangrams for some math fun!!

As a follow-up to our social studies unit on things of long ago, we will be taking our field trip to Wildwood Metropark on Friday, April 19--NEXT FRIDAY. We will be visiting the one room schoolhouse (the Oak Grove School) and see the living history presentation. Your kindergartner will step back in time and see what school was like in the 1800's, as well as discover some old fashioned toys and games boys and girls of that era would use and play. It's a fun and educational field trip your child will talk about for a long time! Your child needs to wear casual clothes and tennis shoes and bring a sack lunch and drink on Friday. Dress your son or daughter for the weather because most of the activities are outdoors and we will go rain or shine. We will leave TCS around 9:45 and return to school before 2:30. Permission slips are due ASAP!!!

Parents who drive for the trip need to meet outside my room at 9:30 for a brief meeting before we leave. **Please call Mrs. Brandi Harvey ASAP if you can drive for this field trip. She is arranging transportation for the class. Thanks!**



**PLEASE SAVE THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 2, ON YOUR CALENDAR** because your kindergartner will be participating in Young Authors Night here at TCS. Those of you with older children know what a great family event this is. Your children will be writing and illustrating short stories and sharing them in classrooms that night with other elementary students. At some point I may need to enlist the help of some parents as we near completion of our projects. Each child is receiving a bare book for recording and illustrating his/her story. Watch for updates in future newsletters.

Because of our field trip and my absence on Thursday next week to do kindergarten testing for Eagle's Nest students, there will not be a Star of the Week. However, the following week, Evan Harvey will be our final Kindergarten Star of the Week. At that time we will conclude our Star of the Week feature for this year. It has been a very positive learning experience for your children and a fun way for them to get to know their classmates and families throughout the year. I want to thank all of you parents for making my Star of the Week feature a success. Your child will remember your involvement and the special time he/she could "shine" as our class VIP. Your presence in the classroom made a wonderful memory and showed your child how important he is to you. Thank you for investing your time in this worthwhile aspect of my kindergarten program.

I also want to thank all of you parents for "adopting" Cuddles, the kindergarten bear, this year and helping your child learn about language, writing stories, and communicating ideas on paper. I will

be reading the journal entries to the class the last week of school. The children are very curious to know what Cuddles did at everyone's house!



Please keep reading for some VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION and reminders about deadlines, due dates, and upcoming events.

1. We are almost out of snacks for our daily snack time. If you did not donate any snack items at the beginning of the year, please send in something for the class to share at snack time. Crackers, pretzels, cereal bars, graham crackers, etc. are good choices.
2. This week I sent home Scholastic flyers for the April and May book clubs. This will be my last book club order for the year. **Orders and payments are due on Tuesday, April 23, to allow enough time for orders to be processed and shipped to us before the end of the school year.**
3. Monday, April 15, is the last day to send in socks for Hannah's Socks. Let's do our part!
4. Send in those Box Tops, please!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
5. My blind friend, Miss Betty, will be visiting the class and teaching a lesson on the five senses on Thursday, May 9. More details to come.

May is a very busy month packed with special events you won't want to miss. I'm listing them now so some of you can make arrangements at work to join us for these memorable happenings.

Our class Teddy Bear Picnic will be held on Friday, May 24, from approximately 11:15-2:15. Children will come to school at the normal time in the morning and parents will come at 11:15 for a picnic lunch. Special activities will follow our lunch. This is not a time for siblings to come. It is designed to be a special event for you and your kindergartner to share and celebrate together. More

details will be forthcoming, but I wanted to let you know in advance so arrangements can be made to join your child on this exciting afternoon. Start hunting for that special teddy bear your child loves the most. It will be coming to school on May 24.

Kindergarten Field Day is Wednesday, May 29, in the morning. Events run from 9:30-11:30. We need parent volunteers to run and supervise the various game stations and racing events. This is an easy way to earn volunteer hours. All supplies and equipment are provided. Contact me ASAP if you are interested in helping that morning. We should be done by noon and children will be allowed to go home following the field day festivities.



May 30 is our Kindergarten End-of-the-Year Program and Graduation Ceremony. We will rehearse at school in the new gym in the morning and parents are asked to pick up their children at 11:00 and take them home for lunch and some rest time. It will be a very tiring morning and the children need to rest before the evening performance. The program takes place at 7:00 in the evening but children need to return by 6:30. More information will be coming to you in the near future, so be on the lookout!!! May 30 is also our last day of kindergarten.

To prepare for our spring program, help your child say the days of the week, the months of the year in order, count to 100 by tens, and recite Psalm 100 from memory. (We learned that back in November for Thanksgiving.) These are skills I will evaluate for report cards, so you can accomplish two things at once with a little practice!

Thanks for your patience in reading this lengthy newsletter. I needed to get this important information out to you now so you can plan ahead with work schedules. I hope this is helpful.

Have a great weekend with your family and don't forget to point out signs of spring to your little one.

Spring blessings,  
Mrs. Tropf