

Mrs. Tropf's Newsletter

May 9, 2013

Dear Kindergarten Parents,

Thank you for attending our Young Authors Night last Thursday evening and supporting your children in their first big writing endeavor. The children came to school that morning truly excited about the event and all of them were eager to share their stories and illustrations with listeners in their audience. I was proud of my students for sticking with this HUGE undertaking and working so hard on their stories and pictures. Thanks for showing your interest and support by attending. A special thanks to those parents who were room hosts.

It's hard to believe, but your children are almost first graders! This is a bittersweet time of year for me. I am thrilled to see how far the children have come since September, yet I am saddened to say good-bye after bonding with them throughout the school year. Your children have been a precious group to work with and I have enjoyed them. Pray that the many seeds planted this year will bear fruit down the road and point the children to the Saviour. In these last busy days of the year pray also that we will finish strong and obey our rules until the very end. I often tell the children that this is the true test of character. We want to please Jesus by being good listeners who obey our class rules and show kindness to our friends.

This week has been busy due to grade card evaluations, finishing projects, and normal end-of-the-year business. I will start calling families before the end of May to discuss your child's progress this past quarter. I will also offer suggestions for areas that need to be strengthened over the summer months. Feel free to raise any questions or concerns during our phone conference.



Our Bible lessons next week will be a bit different. The children will hear stories that teach Biblical principles for daily living: *What Would Jesus Do?* *What Is a Christian?* *The Donut Repair Club Helps Out* and *The Donut Repair Club Tells the Good News.* We will also sing some of our favorite Bible songs from this year. Soon I will be asking the children to share their favorite Bible story and tell why it was their favorite of all the stories they heard during the year. I can't wait to hear their responses!!!



We will finish our math curriculum and take a test on Topic 16. However, the children are not done with math! They need to be able to fill in a blank hundreds chart correctly with few number reversals. In the remaining weeks of school we will be doing review work, do some addition and subtraction problems, practice counting to 100 by 5's and 2's, and complete more workbook pages. We did not do very many pages from the math workbook, so I will be sending it home so that you can use it with your child over the summer. It will be an excellent way to review content and concepts covered in our kindergarten curriculum this year and keep those math skills sharp over the summer months. Please take advantage of this free resource and use it over the vacation period.

Remember to send the end-of-the-year form to me ASAP so that I know the important information from Mrs. Gioiella reached you. It is due back to me by May 16. Thanks so much!

Our kindergarten field day on May 29 still needs parent volunteers to help with the games and activities. Please let me know ASAP if you are able to help that morning. The activities will take place from 9:30-11:30. Parent volunteers will meet with Mrs. Hackett around 9:00 to learn about stations and get supplies and instructions for the morning. Parents will be allowed to take their children home at the conclusion of our field day activities that morning. Children staying all day must bring a sack lunch and drink. Play clothes and athletic shoes are appropriate for the day's outdoor activities.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, our kindergarten end-of-the-year program is Thursday, May 30, here at TCS in the old gym. The children will come to school that morning at the usual time. Parents will pick up their children at 11:00 and take them home for a nap before returning to TCS at 6:30 that evening to prepare for the program. Children remaining at school must have a sack lunch and drink for that day. **NO HOT LUNCHESES WILL BE AVAILABLE.** The evening program begins at 7:00 sharp. The children must dress in their Sunday best for the evening performance. No uniforms, or casual clothing, please!! Following the musical performance there will be a kindergarten "graduation" ceremony that you won't want to miss. We will celebrate the milestones of this special year and the wonderful accomplishments of your children. To conclude the evening there will be a reception in the gym lobby. **Each family is asked to provide one dozen cookies for the reception.** **We still need parent volunteers to help set up and clean up for the reception that evening.**



TEDDY BEAR PICNIC

Our Teddy Bear Picnic is scheduled for Friday, May 24. Students must be in school the entire day, so children will come to school at the normal time and be dismissed after 2:15. If parents are unable to attend, children may invite a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or special adult. If parents are present at the picnic children may leave before 2:45 with their parents. Children whose parents cannot attend the picnic will go to carpool or aftercare at the regular dismissal time. Our special Teddy Bear events are scheduled from approximately 11:15-2:15 and parents are encouraged to join us during that time frame. Children are permitted to wear casual/play clothes on the day of the picnic. Each child should choose his/her favorite teddy bear from home to decorate or dress up and bring to school the day of the picnic. A fun activity is planned for your child and his/her bear. It promises to be a great memory! Come join us at 11:15 in the classroom and we'll prepare for our picnic lunch at 11:30. Remember to bring a sack lunch and drink for you and your child that day. (Also, no siblings, please. This is a special time just for you and your kindergartner.)



Let me wish all of you mothers a very happy and memorable Mother's Day on Sunday. I hope you enjoy the gift your child made for you. We wanted you to feel loved and appreciated! May God richly bless you in this high and holy calling of motherhood as you care for your families and train these little ones to love and serve God.

As you can see, our year is quickly drawing to a close and the coming weeks will be very busy with our special events. God bless you in these busy days as our kindergarten year winds down.

Because of Him,
Mrs. Tropf