

February 1st

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734-424-9948, home

Focus Studies

Monday will be the first day of Focus Studies. Focus Studies are from 1:45-2:45 each day. Your child will know which class they will be attending by Friday. We will NOT be having swimming until after the February break. Your child will have gym twice a week during the two weeks of Focus Studies so send them wearing the appropriate shoes on Monday and Wednesday. Thanks!!

Our regular volunteer schedule will be altered by this schedule. If your time is during a special or during Focus Studies and you can come during the time we will be in class let me know. Otherwise we will resume our regular schedule when we return from break. Several people have had schedule changes that will permit helping in the classroom. Let me know if you see a time slot during Focus Studies that works for you!

UMS Field Trip- February 17th

Attached is the permission slip for our second AM field trip to hear Sweet Honey In the Rock. Your child needs to arrive at 9:30 AM. They will need a bag lunch and beverage. Our class will be eating in the classroom just for this one day, when we return from Hill. Since this trip is during the final day of Focus Studies your child is invited to stay at school until our usual dismissal time, 2:54 PM I will assume they will be getting home by the transportation mode they would use on a regular day. This is only the case for our class!!!! Very limited chaperone spaces!



Feb. 3rd-Dress Like a Character Day

Choose your favorite character in literature and become him/her/it for a day. Please remember your child will be participating in a regular school day so don't make the outfit too complex.

Class Needs

Liquid Soap Pumps and their containers - As you empty a liquid soap pump at home please wash it out and send it to school. We need the kind for thick soap. This is a project for the future and **we will need one pump per child** in a few months.

Focus Studies Schedule

Monday-Friday 1:45-2:45

Focus Studies

Monday - 12:40-1:10 Gym

Tuesday - 12:00-12:45 Art

Wednesday - 12:15-12:45

Gym

Thursday - 12:30-1:00

Library

Friday- 12:50-1:15 Music

Book Order Sheets Attached



The orders are due February 10th and most likely will be to school before we have break but not guaranteed.



Valentine's Day



We are looking for food and supply donations for our school celebration. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the classroom door in the media center.

We are looking for veggies and dip, cut up fruit, beverage, one sweet treat and paper products. Before the party each child will make a mail bag to receive their cards. There are 18 students in the class this year. At home you will need to have your child do the following:

- sign their name on each card.
- do not put a name on the envelope or outside (No name makes it easiest to deliver the cards, any card can go to any child.).
- send them to school on Tuesday, February 14th. We will deliver them that day.

100th Day of School

February 16th will be our 100th day of school. We have been counting the days of school and enjoying Zero the Hero's visits up to this point and Thursday, February 16th we will be having our celebration. On that day and leading up to that day we will be counting quantities of 100 to help us understand what 100 is.

Each child is asked to bring a collection of 100 things that they are bringing from home to school that day. Some ideas to help you get discussion going at home are: bottle caps, paper clips, rocks, beads, items of food, toothpicks, baseball cards, etc. Just use your imagination and don't go out to purchase anything special. We will be displaying our collections for the rest of the school to see. Try to come up with a collection of 100 things that would fit in a space no bigger than 18" x24". Since the display will be out for the whole building to view, please don't send valuable or irreplaceable items.



Book Bags




Since the beginning of the school year your child has been bringing home copied little books for you to read repeatedly and keep at home. This week your child will be bringing home the usual little book as well as some published books that they are borrowing from the school "Book Room". They have read some of them before and some will be new. All are similar in style and difficulty.

The bag itself is designed to help you keep track of these very little books. The magnets on the back of the bag should stick to your frig and will keep these skinny books from getting sandwiched where they are no longer visible.

As you began reading with your child, if they are at the developmental stage where they are reading mostly through memorizing the text and the pattern of the book, encourage them to point to the words as they read. Teachers often refer to this as "self-monitoring" which means the pointing is helping remind your child to really look at the words. Often at this point in literacy development the child does not realize that words convey a message. By pointing the child focuses on the words and notices the details of written language.

As your child's reading skills develop they will point less frequently and will move to "pointing with their eyes".


Don't forget to send the commercially published books back to school once a week so that I can send some new ones home. The copied books can stay at home in a place where they can be read repeatedly and regularly.

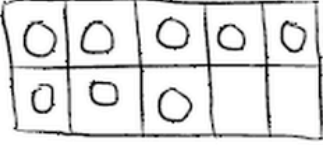
Measuring and Counting
Family Letter 

About the Mathematics in This Unit (page 1 of 2)

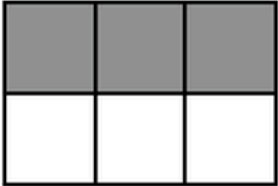
Dear Family,

Our class is starting a new unit in mathematics called *Measuring and Counting*. The focus of this unit is on counting and measuring. Students line up craft sticks or cubes to measure the length of objects, including outlines of their shoes. They develop visual images for quantities up to 10 as they roll dot cubes, work with Ten-Frames, and find many different ways to arrange a set of 5 to 10 tiles.






Students count and compare quantities throughout this unit. These activities support students as they make connections between counting and combining, which helps them begin to add and subtract small numbers. For example, they solve simple story problems and play games that ask them to figure out the total when 1, 2, and 3 are added or when 1 is taken away.

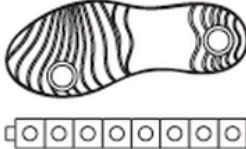
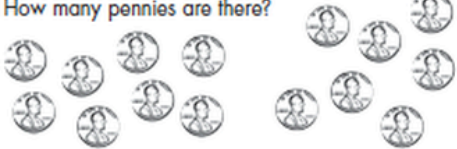



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Measuring and Counting
Family Letter


About the Mathematics in This Unit (page 2 of 2)

Throughout this unit, students will be working toward these goals:

BENCHMARKS/GOALS	EXAMPLES										
Measure the length of an object by lining up multiple units.	How many cubes long is Jack's shoe? <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>										
Count a set of up to 15 objects.	How many pennies are there? <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>										
Figure out what is one more or one fewer than a number.	What's 1 more than 5? <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">  </div> <div style="margin-top: 10px;"> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> </div>										

In our math class, students engage in math problems and activities and discuss the underlying concepts. They are asked to share their reasoning and solutions. It is important that children solve math problems accurately in ways that make sense to them. At home, encourage your child to explain his or her math thinking to you.

In the coming weeks, you will receive information about activities to do at home.

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