September 29, 2017

Dear TK Parents,

This week our unit is friends and family. We are also learning about the five senses and about apples.

In literacy, we began letter Mm activities. We learned many words that begin with the letter “m” and practiced writing the correct letter formation for both the uppercase and lowercase letter. We shared our toys from home that begin with the letter “m”. We focused on the big book, At the Beach, discussed the jobs of the author and illustrator, and charted how the narrator uses her five senses in the book. We worked on identifying and producing new rhyming words. We learned the sight words: have, this. We read another emergent reader book called, Going to the Beach. We counted the words in the title and pointed to each word as we read the story. In our writing, we worked on adding details to our drawings such as adding the characters/people and then the setting.

In math, we continued to focus on various types of patterns. We also learned to identify the numbers 1 and 2. We used a dice to begin subitizing the amount of dots on each roll. (

In social studies, we celebrated Johnny Appleseed’s birthday that was on September 26th by making apple puppets and reading nonfiction books about Johnny Appleseed.

In science, we read many apple books and discussed the seasons of an apple tree. Zero the Hero met us for the third time for the number 30 (30 days of school). He brought us lemon juice and baking soda to help with our science lesson. He also brought us an apple book to learn about the seasons of an apple tree. On Friday, we did a jumping apple seed experiment. In this experiment, we learned that we begin every science experiment with a question and a hypothesis and then always record our results at the end. Ask your child(ren) what happened to the apple seed in the majority of the cups.

In our social skills lessons for the week, we learned that everyone has feelings and emotions such as: happy, sad, surprised, angry, excited and more. We learned that if we are angry, it is helpful to talk about it or to think of solutions to calm down. We can also take deep-breathes or count to ten. We also learned that we can tell other people’s emotions by looking at their faces. We even practiced acting out some emotions on our faces and then guessing which emotion our partner was acting out.

Thank you to Jim, Chella and Griffin’s father for being our mystery reader on Monday. It was very enjoyable! We had 4th grade reading buddies on Tuesday. On Wednesday, we had Technology with Mr. Rob in which we presented our K’nex simple machines that we made. We had music class with Ms. Gonzalez. (Please make sure that you pick up your child on Wednesdays at the auditorium). We celebrated Jayden’s birthday on Thursday and had a great time! On Thursday and Friday, we had P.E. with Coach F.

What a super week!

**Announcements:**

1. **Homework:**
2. **Show and Tell:** This week’s letter is the Letter Aa. Please look around your house with your child and have your child bring something on October 5th that begins with the letter “a” such as an apple, an alligator, or an astronaut ☺.
3. **Reading Journals**: These journals in the plastic bag were sent home today and the first drawing and response is due on Friday, October 6th. Please have your child choose a book to respond to in the journal. You can read the directions about how to complete this assignment pasted in the journal or attached below.
4. **Reading Log**: The September one is due on Monday, October 2nd. Please put this in your child’s purple folder the night before. Your child will be given the October reading log on Monday. It will be due on Wednesday, November 1st. If you would like an extra one or happen to lose the one that you have, you can go to the section: Home/School Connection on the classroom website: mrsbtk.weebly.com, download the form and print it out.
5. **Library Book:** Bring back your library book on Wednesday, October 4th if you haven’t done so already. This is our next library time.
6. **Pick-Up on Wednesdays:** Please pick up your child at the auditorium on Wednesday afternoons. We have music class that will end at 2:45 pm. Thank you.
7. **Scholastic Reading:** October book orders are due on October 30th. If you would like to order, please go online to <https://clubs2.scholastic.com/> and enter our Class Activation Code: NTZNM. Remember, these orders help us earn free books and resources for our classroom. Thank you to those who bought from the September book orders! Those will arrive in about two weeks.
8. **Shutterfly Website:** I have added to our classroom’s Shutterfly Account. Please let me know if you are having difficulty signing on and I will try to help you. Thank you!

**Birthdays Next Week:**

Misha- October 6th

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns via email benyaminy@westhollywoodelementary.net

Sincerely,

Mrs. Benyaminy

**Homework Assignments**

**Monday through Friday:** Read 15-20 minutes every night

**Every Thursday:** Show and Tell (The theme of show and tell will be in the weekly newsletter the week before.)

**Due every Friday:** 1 response to any of the books read that week in the Reading Journal. Bring the bag with the Reading Journal into class on Fridays.

**At the end of each month:** Monthly Reading Log colored in depending on how many books your child and you have read.

**Ways to Respond in Writing:**

Take the lead from your child whether he or she would like to dictate, trace your writing, or independently write about what he or she has drawn.

* Dictate: Write the exact words your child says.
* Trace: Write with a yellow marker or highlighter so that your child can trace over it.
* Write Independently: Please write the translation at the bottom of the page.

\*\*It is important to write exactly what your child says, even with the mistakes. The writing needs to be in your child’s own words. This is part of the process.