

Classroom Notes
September 2020

September 7, 2020

Dear Families,

It was so wonderful to see all of you at the orientation last week. I have had a few questions about bringing in wipes to school. Even if your child is potty trained, please send in a container of baby wipes. We use these to help all the children keep their hands clean if we are outside. When available, please also send in one container of Clorox wipes. We will be using gentle cleaners, like castile soap, as much as possible, but some materials will need to be cleaned with a Clorox wipe. If your child is still in pull-ups, please send in a large box so we can stock their bathroom shelf.

Below you will find your child's shape assignment. You can show your child a picture of the shape at some point today and begin talking about things at school where they will find their shape. Your child's cubby, hand towel, coat hook, snack tray, art box, and clay tray will all have their shape displayed on the material.

Also, please see your family's grocery week below.

PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS EMAIL. This is our official class group. Please let me know that you got this email so I know if you are receiving our communication properly. Thank you so much and see you all tomorrow!

Warmly,
Sarah

Shape Assignments:

Anna: Heart
Riley: Diamond
Owen: Hexagon
Madeline: Star
Ashton: Square
Samuel: Rectangle
Gannon: Plus Sign
Kylan: Circle
Sloane: Triangle

Grocery Dates:

Anna: 9/8-11
Riley: 9/14-18
Owen: 9/21-25
Madeline: 9/28-10/2
Ashton: 10/5-9
Samuel: 10/12-16
Gannon: 10/19-23
Kylan: 10/26-30
Sloane: 11/4-6

September 28, 2020

Dear Families,

It has been so wonderful celebrating Autumn with your children! We have sung songs and recited poems about apples, learned the parts of an apple, made applesauce, and have enjoyed apples for snack and lunch. Many of the children are using their refined pincer grasp or small tongs to remove sunflower seeds from the head of the flower. We are starting to see signs of Fall in our classroom such as gourds in the windowsill, fallen, colored leaves in our nature basket, and orange paint with a leaf stamper for our easel.

Your children are loving their individual snack trays. This has really given everyone an opportunity to choose snack when they are hungry and to prepare their food in some way; such as spreading jelly on their toast or peeling and slicing their bananas. When the children prepare their own snack they are fulfilling their own needs, listening to their inner teacher, developing their will, and strengthening fine motor skills. The children are all working hard to pour their own water, using cloths when they spill, and placing the wet cloth in the laundry basket when finished.

We are also working hard on many grace and courtesy lessons. The children are practicing self restraint and patience when another friend is working with materials they want to use. I am hearing more back and forth conversations between the children such as, "May I use that when you are finished?" or "This is my work, please wait.". These opportunities allow the children to interact with one another gracefully and respectfully. Many of the children are learning how to observe their friends working while they are waiting for the material to be available. Observing another child's work has been really beneficial for many of our students because they are absorbing the lesson and controlling their impulses.

The Primary children have loved our color tablets and enjoy finding all the red, yellow, and blue objects throughout the classroom. The Primary children have also enjoyed the sandpaper numbers and are working hard to stay on the path when tracing the number. Counting objects is popular with all the children currently and we love counting how many beads we string, how many puzzle pieces there are, and how many pegs are in the pegboard. Lock and key, painting, clay, and sound cylinders are all favorite materials and used by many children every day. Bringing up these materials would be a great conversation starter for your child to get them talking about their day at school.

Thank you to all who have brought in groceries and flowers so far this year!

Warmly,
Sarah