



## **Classroom III Newsletter**



Things are buzzing now inside of Classroom III. The children are adjusting well to the all day routine and we are off to a wonderful start! We are greeted in the morning by smiles from children who are enthusiastic and ready to learn. We have really enjoyed meeting all of our new families and reconnecting with our returning families and we feel like this will be a truly wonderful year!

### **What's New**

Our group lessons the past month have focused a lot on our classroom ground rules. We discussed with the children what “respect” means and introduced to them our 3 main rules: respect others, respect our classroom, and respect ourselves. The children seem to be grasping these rules and are learning what it means to be respectful of people and things. Mrs. Campbell has also done a week of sign language lessons and Ms. Shedd just completed a week of group lessons on “our place in the world.”

We have just begun our music appreciation lessons with the children and are thrilled by their response. We are using the Brummitt-Taylor Music Listening Program, which involves the children listening to various pieces of

classical music each day for the entire school year. We began with Vivaldi's "Autumn" and will be listening to a selection by Debussy next. This program is new to our classroom and our school and we cannot wait to see how it enriches our students! We will keep you posted on how this progresses.

Our shelves are filling up as the children grow and absorb all of the new materials. In math, the golden bead materials (which are the beginning of the decimal system) are out and loved by the children. Science and Geography are growing to include materials on land, air, and water and living/non-living. Language is booming with beginning phonetic sound work and pre-reading and pre-writing work. The shelves will continue to fill with new materials and we encourage you to drop by and see what the children have been working on.

### **Reminders & Thoughts**

Please remember that our school day begins at 8:30 am. The children tend to feel a bit lost if they walk into the classroom late and everyone is already focused and hard at work.

Please schedule observations with the front office. On the day of your observation, you must check in with the front office before coming into the observation room – this helps to avoid overlapping with another observer. Also, it is best not to tell your child that you will be watching them – you want to be able to see the clearest picture of

them in their school environment and if they know you are there, they will inevitably react!

Please remember to return your child's workbag. We will be sending them home every Thursday.

Calling all plastic bags!! We need donations of plastic grocery bags, which we use to line our small garbage cans.

### **Thank\$ you\$**

Thank you to April Pottorff and Greg Luhan for hosting our classroom ice cream social! It was a great chance to mingle and everyone had a wonderful time.

Thank you to Julie Brock for organizing the Scholastic books! This will be an easy way to find great, age-appropriate books for your children.

Thanks for all of your emails! It is wonderful to have an open communication policy. Please feel free to email, call, or stop by anytime!

Gretchen, Janet, Heather, & Viviana