

Dear Parents,

We are off to a great start in Classroom I. The children seem to be adjusting to our all-day routine. They come in each morning happy and enthused to begin making independent work choices from the shelves.

These first few weeks we have focused on our classroom ground rules. The children understand that following our ground rules help to keep our classroom peaceful, safe and orderly. Some examples of our classroom ground rules are; walking feet, using quiet voices, pushing in chairs, rolling up work rugs and putting work back on the shelves.

We have also started our lessons on grace and courtesy. The children have been showing respect for each other by using polite words such as excuse me, please, thank you and no thank you. We have placed an emphasis on using helpful hands. Our message to the children is "helpful hands are gentle hands." Mrs. Kessinger took a picture of each one of the children using their helpful hands in our classroom. We put them in an album for the children to look at during choice time. The children enjoy trying to identify the hands of their friend's.

We are saying goodbye to Summer and welcoming Fall into our classroom. We will be talking about the change of season, going on a nature walk to identify leaves and looking for changes in the garden and the trees.

The third year children have started specialty classes. On Mondays they go to the FAAB building for P.E., Tuesdays they go with Ms. McCarter for a library lesson and on Wednesdays they go back to the FAAB building for a Spanish lesson with Senora Santa-Pau. They love these days! It is one of the privileges of being a third year! On Wednesday afternoons we have Mrs. Ueland, mother of Elizabeth and Sarah in classrooms IV and VI and Thomas in classroom VIII, coming to sing and teach simple Spanish lessons to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year children.

Reminders:

- Please remember to return accident clothes. They are easily identified by the "PMS" written on the inside label.
- Please remind the children that jewelry and toys stay at home. They are a distraction in the classroom.
- Please remember to send work bags back to school. We will send them home every Thursday.
- We have children who have allergies to peanuts. Snack should be peanut-free. This includes snacks processed in factories that also process peanuts. Please read all labels before sending snack to school.
- As the weather changes please remember to dress your child accordingly. We will go

outside to play if the temperature is 32 degrees or above. Also, be sure all hats, gloves, scarves and mittens are clearly labeled.

- Beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>, we would love for you to come and enjoy observing your child working in the classroom. Call the office to schedule an available time.
- We are in need of plastic grocery bags. We use these to line our small classroom garbage cans.

Thank you for taking the time to read our classroom news! Please feel free to contact us with any concerns or questions. Please note that I have created an e-mail account for classroom parents. This is the e-mail I would like for you to use. I will do my very best to check this account frequently.

Sincerely,

Joan Young