



December 2011



Mrs. Masury's Kindergarten Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Thank you for attending our Fall Festival. It was fun to celebrate all our hard work with our family and friends. I'm so proud of your children and your presence shows how much you value their education!

This month our focus in literacy is on rhyming. Reading familiar rhymes help children read more confidently and fluently. As we continue our genre study on Nursery Rhymes your child will learn about their purpose. Some nursery rhymes are categorized as historical, educational, or entertaining. Have fun rhyming words with your child. Say a word (e.g. pan) and together think of as many words as you can that rhyme with it (e.g. dan, fan, zan, wan, tan). Nonsense words are okay. Count how many words you named. Bring your list of rhyming words to school to share with your friends!

In Writer's Workshop we have begun using our Writing Journals to sketch our stories. We will be using our sight words to label pictures and write sentences. Please continue to practice reading and writing our sight words at home. Our sight words for December are **I, a, the, on, no, yes, by, my, and, is, it, see, to**. Have fun guessing sight words with your child. For example, I'm thinking of a sight word that has 2 letters and *rhymes* with go. I'm thinking of a sight word that has *more than* 2 letters and ends with the sound /d/. Help your child write each word on a small piece of paper and move them around to make a sentence then fill in the blanks. For example, I **see** a (dog) **and** a (cat) **by** the (tree). **It is on the** (table) **by** **my** (book).

We completed our first math book which your child took home. Please help your child complete any pages which (s)he may have missed due to absences. Last month we used a variety of attributes to describe objects as same or different. This month we will be ordering things by size, length, or weight. Our Math Talk will include smaller than, bigger than, longer, shorter, heaviest, and lightest. Ask your child to find the bigger toy, the heaviest book, the longer scarf, the shorter pencil, etc... We will continue to work on recognizing various numerals 0-30, counting from memory 1-60, and comparing numerals. Have fun guessing numbers with your child. For example, I'm thinking of a number that comes *after* 7 and *before* 9. I'm thinking of a number that is 2 *more than* 4. I'm thinking of a number that is 1 *less than* 10. I'm thinking of a number that is *less than* 8 but 3 *more than* 2.

As winter approaches and we are dressed warmly, we will be asking the children to do extra chores or jobs at home to earn change which will be donated to the Children's Chamber Fund. The Children's Chamber Fund uses this money to purchase winter clothing for area children who do not have warm coats, mittens, and boots. With each donation please include a note of how your child earned the money. We will graph our coins and share your child's efforts with the Children's Chamber Fund.

Important dates: There is NO school on Friday **12/9** for Professional Development. We will be meeting with the consultant from Math in Focus. December Book Orders are due in class by **12/8** or on-line by 12/9 to have them delivered before the holiday break. Chamber Fund chore money is due no later than Monday **12/19**. Thursday **12/22** is our Cookies and Cocoa Day. We will enjoy cozying up with cookies, hot chocolate, winter stories, and a friendship gift exchange. Your child will NOT need a snack and friendship gifts will be made at school. Our Holiday Break is **12/23/11-1/1/12**.

Thank you for all your support,

Mrs. Masury

