

June 2009

Dear Parents,

As this is my last newsletter for the year, I would like to begin by thanking everyone for your support this year. Your children have grown so much, academically and socially. It is hard to believe they are the same children that entered KM in September.

As we wrap up our kindergarten year, I have noticed that many of your children are showing signs of anxiety over the ending of the school year. We have had many more squabbles, less listening and more inappropriate behavior lately. The children are all keenly aware of the number of days left and are feeling unsure of what the future will bring. I will be using our last few Open Circle times to discuss their feelings related to the end of the school year and reassure them that they are all ready for first grade. At home, you can help by making sure they get enough sleep, reassuring them that they will have friends next year and letting them know that they are ready to handle the challenges of first grade.

In language arts, we will continue reviewing the vowels, work a little with digraphs (ex. th, sh) and blends (ex. st, tr), and prepare to share our published stories. In case you missed the note, you are all invited to our classroom on Thursday, June

18, at 2:15 to hear the children read their published stories from Writer's Workshop. We will also finish our study of the poet, Jack Prelutsky.

In math, we will end the year with the data and sorting unit. Some of the activities we will be doing include sorting housekeeping items (ex. silverware, plates), comparing two objects, taking surveys and sorting our favorite lunch foods. We will focus on the attributes of various objects and compare how various objects are the same and different. We will continue focusing on collecting and organizing data and then reporting that data both orally and in writing.

In science, we will continue with the habitat unit. The tanks have been fun to watch as the children have discovered baby guppies and baby snails. Of course, we have also had a couple deaths. Your children have created wonderful recordings to document the habitat unit. I will be sending them home this week. Please take the time to go through them with your child. They are wonderful! Thank you to all who have volunteered to take some of the organisms home. Just a reminder that I will be sending them home this Tuesday, June 2. Please send in a container labeled with your child's name by then.

Please note that on Friday, June 19, we will have an early dismissal for the Autograph Party. All

students will be dismissed at 2:45. Every child will be given an autograph booklet and be allowed to mingle in the courtyard area signing each other's books. Parents are responsible for their children during this event. If you cannot be here by 2:45, please let me know, and I will stay with your child in the classroom until 3:05. Arrangements will be made for those attending WCCC to go to the Autograph party.

Here are some end-of-the-year dates:

June 1 Men Read at Hunnewell 8:45

June 9 Field Day 9:30-10:30

June 18 Parents Invited to Hear Published Stories
2:15

June 19 Early Dismissal for Autograph Party 2:45

June 23 Last Day of School 12:00 Dismissal

I wish you all a fun and relaxing summer break.

Sincerely,

Donna