

November 2008

Dear Parents,

Thank you to those parents who have already attended a parent/teacher conference. I look forward to meeting with the rest of you during the next two weeks.

In the area of literacy, we will be focusing on the letters N, M and H. We will also be working on building listening skills, rhyming and beginning sounds. At Writer's Workshop, we will be learning about the author/illustrator Lois Ehlert. We will read several books by this author and get to know her style. We started interactive writing this past week. This involves the children working together to write words in "grown-up" spelling. The children share the pen or write one or two letters each. We listen for the sounds in a word as we say it slowly. I help the children with silent letters or difficult sounds. The list of words we generate together becomes reading material in our classroom.

In math, we will continue with the unit, "Counting and Comparing." The children have been playing games that involve counting objects with 1:1 correspondence, comparing two amounts and comparing objects to sticks of ten cubes to determine if they are longer or shorter. We are now comparing the lengths of the children's names in our class. Soon, we will be ordering towers of cubes from shortest to tallest as well as ordering the numbers on four cards.

In science, we have completed the unit on describing objects. Next week, we will begin our mold gardens. Each child will put a goldfish cracker in a baby food jar with a wet towel. We will then observe these jars for four to

five weeks. The children will document the changes in a journal and use the vocabulary we generated in describing the objects to describe their goldfish crackers.

Next week, KM will be voting for the next president of the United States along with the rest of the Hunnewell School. We talked briefly about the two candidates as well as the vice presidential candidates this week. We read the book, Duck For President, to help us understand the process candidates go through to be elected.

Here are some "tidbits:"

-Thank you for all the recyclables you have sent so far. Because of limited storage space, please do not send in any more for now. However, we could use Kleenex with lotion and liquid hand soap if you would like to contribute these to our classroom.

-There is no stay day on Tuesday, November 4, due to conferences.

-Please make sure your child has sneakers on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Physical Education.

-There is no school on November 11 and from November 27 through December 1.

-Please be sure your child is at school by 8:30. We have had many tardy children lately. It really helps your child if he/she has a few minutes to say hello to his/her classmates before starting the day.

-I would appreciate it if you would only call me at school (781-446-6275) even if I have called you from my home. Thanks for understanding and respecting my personal time.

Sincerely,

Donna