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STUDENTS LEARN, GROW AND THRIVE - AN UPDATE FROM MS. DIGIOVANNI

Today marks the 39th day of school, and probably my 2,000th day at JKHA. Seeing our young learners enter the doors each morning with excitement as to what the day will bring will never become too tedious of an observation. On this

39th day of school I marvel as to how far our students have come in a short period of time. Watching our youngest learners in Nursery 3 learn how to work in centers and ask questions stemming from pure curiosity, to watching our Pre-K students begin to work together on tasks and express their needs, to our Kindergartners learning how to work independently and develop a greater sense of self is invigorating.

In Early Childhood, teachers strive to plan lessons that not only reinforce skills that lend itself to formative assessment (yes, even in Nursery 3), but also lessons that give children experiences that help build their language, fine motor and problem solving skills. This is apparent each day when children are working on exploring living and non living things through experiential observations, making predictions as to what happens when you mix the colors from the rainbow or when children are wondering what they would have brought on the ark with Noach. By encouraging children's natural curiosity and supporting them as they learn to make predictions, we are in turn, also building their comfort with taking risks and nurturing their love of learning.

This week, everyone from Nursery 3 through fifth grade voted for 'Vote for the Quote'. Students voted for which book quote they would like seen up on the walls of our newly renovated Library. Students learned that their vote matters and that they were actually affecting change. Empowering even our youngest learners to be big thinkers is a cornerstone of our Early Childhood.

The winning quote was: "With the right words, you can change the world" from Charlotte's Web.

