

111/18/2022

Dear Parents,

Since last week was a short week and we did not have a letter I'll add in information about things we did in the two weeks. Hope everyone had an amazing Veterans Day weekend and to all those who have served, and those who continue to serve, thank you for your service!

We would like to start off by thanking all the parents who sent in food and other items to make our Thanksgiving feast a success. Everything was delicious and the children had a great time. Please check Brightwheel for pictures.

The topic this week was Thanksgiving and the letter Tt. These past couple weeks, our students learned about Thanksgiving, how it began and why we celebrate it. The Thanksgiving story starts in England in 1620, when about 100 passengers called the "Pilgrims" boarded a ship called the "Mayflower". They sailed across the ocean to start a new life. The Pilgrims settled into a village called Plymouth which was inhabited by the Native Americans. They taught the Pilgrims essential surviving knowledge about crops and plants. Because of this act of friendship and generosity, the Pilgrims survived another winter. With the help of their neighbors, they welcomed a harvest in the fall and celebrated with the first Thanksgiving. Even though the first Thanksgiving was hundreds of years ago, it wasn't an official holiday until 1863 when Abraham Lincoln declared it to be a national holiday on the fourth Thursday of November. Although their Thanksgiving dinner may have been a little different from what we enjoy today, the concept of gratitude and friendship remains the same.

Academic Enrichment and Art: Throughout the week, we stayed busy doing many different Thanksgiving crafts and projects and preparing for the feast. The students traced and colored the letter Tt. We also wrote words that start with the letter T. They made a colorful and funny turkey using brown construction paper and tissue paper to hang in the classroom. We also made a headband with a turkey head using construction paper and colorful feathers. We made a thankful turkey and the children wrote what they were thankful for. Some of the things they were grateful for were mom and dad, brothers and sisters, friends, cousins, their pets, and toys. They also decorated their very own placemat that was laminated and used in the Thanksgiving feast on Friday. We also made a scarecrow using different colors and shapes. They got really creative with all the art activities.

This week on Wednesday we continued with our new music and movement and dance class, which the children enjoyed a lot. They listened to the story of the very hungry caterpillar, and danced and moved to many different songs.

Some of the books we read are: My T Book, Thanksgiving Day, The Big Thanksgiving Race, Thanksgiving Is For Giving Thanks, Run Turkey Run. (This was one of their favorite)

Student of the week

Brown Door: Sydney Kleb

Purple Door: Mylan Gonzalez

Please bring a decorated poster on Monday (11/28/22) with family pictures, favorite places to go, food that they like, pets, or add anything that you think will make your child happy to share with classmates and teachers. Have them participate while you are putting it together with them.

Parenting Tips: Talk with your child

Parents can support their child's learning at home in different ways. Talking and listening play major roles in children's school success. It's through hearing parents and family members talk and through responding to that talk that young children begin to pick up the language skills they will need if they are to do well. For example, children who don't hear a lot of talk and who aren't encouraged to talk themselves often have problems learning to read, which can lead to other school problems. In addition, children who haven't learned to listen carefully often have trouble following directions and paying attention in class. It's also important for you to show your child that you're interested in what he has to say. Talking With Your Child offers some great ideas for using conversation to stimulate language development.

Reminders:

11/21 - 11/23 Next week MDCPS are closed and even though we will be open they will be non instructional days and attendance for VPK is not mandatory, and your child will not be marked absent if they do not come to school.

11/24- 11/25 School closed for Thanksgiving Holiday, Thursday and Friday.

Quote of the week

"If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough. " -Meister Eckhart

Wishing you all a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday and hope you enjoy this time with your loved ones.

Ms. Ana and Ms. Nadia

Ms. Marta and Ms. Laura