

Friday, February 1, 2008

Dear Parents:

Next Thursday is the 100th day of school, or Hundred Day. We will have many math activities to celebrate this day. I am inviting you to create a collection of 100 objects with your child. He/she may bring them to share on Thursday, February 7 for Hundred Day.

Today is the last day of our thematic unit about Kenya. We have learned a lot about the people, animals and places of Kenya. We have heard African stories and music. The Social Studies Link Book this week was Houses and the Read Aloud book was Who's In Rabbit's House? The Barbara Saul book was My Blanket and the Science Link Book was I Am Going To Kenya.

The letter of the week was "Ff" and the AlphaFriend who helped us with the name, shape and sound of the letter "Ff" was Fifi Fish. We wrote the letter, made a list of things that start with the "Ff" and played lots of games to learn about "Ff". Have your child tell you 5 things that start with letter "Ff".

Today was a very busy day. It was "Blanket Day". Each child who brought their favorite blanket to school practiced oral language skills by sharing about their blanket in front of the class. We will be making another class book. Your child drew a picture of his/her blanket and wrote a story that had a topic sentence, three supporting detail sentences and a summary sentence. I took pictures of your child and his/her blanket to put on his/her page of the class book.

Next week, we will be starting a new thematic unit: Look Up! Exploring Space. This is a fun and exciting unit. Be sure to ask your child every day what the theme for the day was. Every day I will be teaching a different concept. It might be about the sun, planets, moon or just the difference between day and night. The centers are also tied into the theme. We will have a space shuttle in the dramatic play center for the children to "fly" into space. They will operate robot arms, color, assemble space puzzles, create art and have many other experiences related to space.

Please remember that EVERY day next week is a minimum day because of parent/teacher report card conferences. All the students in the school will be dismissed at 1:30 pm every day. I am asking that you be prompt in picking your child up from school, as I need to be in my classroom ready for the first conference by 1:40. I have finished with the formal assessments and am looking forward to meeting with you and discussing your child's progress. As an aid in preparing for conferences I have attached the conference concerns sheet to this note. You may return it to school with your child, bring it with you to your conference, or just use it at home to get ready.