

Friday, February 8, 2008

Dear Parents:

Parent/Teacher report card conferences are almost over. Next Wednesday, February 13 is set aside for conferences with those who were unable to attend this week. If we did not meet to discuss your child's progress, please call the school office to schedule a time. At the end of the third quarter report cards will be mailed home. Formal conferences will only be held when either the teacher or parent requests one. As always, please contact me whenever you have a question.

We blasted off into space this week! The children seemed excited to begin our three-week unit of study about Space. We studied the Earth, its shape, atmosphere and gravity. In learning centers, the children are making models of the earth, using manipulator arms to build space structures, independently "reading" books about space, playing with the space base, and boarding the space shuttle to explore our solar system. Look on the school's web site to find the link page to resources on the Internet about Space.

The KinderFriends Book was Look At The Sky. The kindergarten teachers wrote the big and little book this week entitled, Good Night, Good Night. The Science Link book was Gravity and the Teacher Read Aloud book was Moon Game. We spent a lot of time writing this week. You might take some time to have your child write for you. Remember, "correct" or "adult" writing is not what we are expecting. Have your child "read" what they have written for you. I'll bet that most of you will see the phonetic letter strings appear as you watch! Many of the children will be able to write 3-letter words that have the letter a in the middle such as; ran, can, cat, bat, van, etc..

Thursday, February 7 was the 100th day of school. It was a wonderful opportunity to practice counting. Many of the students created collections of 100 items that they brought to school on "Hundreds Day" to share with the class. Your child learned how to write the numbers from 1 - 100 on grid paper.

I have been asked about Valentine's Day. We will celebrate it on Thursday, February 14. Each student will have a bag to receive valentines. His/her name will be written on the outside in BIG letters. If your child wishes to exchange Valentines, I ask that he/she bring one for each of the other students in our class. There are two ways to do this; first, your child could write each classmate's name on the valentine, or by far the easiest, they could just sign each valentine but not put a name on the envelope. These "generic" valentines could then just be dropped into each classmate's bag thus avoiding the confusion of having to read each name and making sure it got into the correct bag.