

Friday, December 7, 2007

Dear Parent,

We have been working hard and learning many new things about dinosaurs. Our letter of the week was "Vv". We started new learning centers this week. The students are making dinosaur models, putting together dinosaur puzzles, imagining with plastic dinosaurs, reading stories about dinosaurs, and looking at dinosaur books.

The Shared Book was Dig a Dinosaur, which was set to music. You might want to see if your child remembers how to sing, "Dig a, Dig a, Dig a, Dig a Dinosaur" The Read Aloud book was Patrick's Dinosaurs, about a boy who imagined dinosaurs all around him. Have your child tell you the story of Patrick's Dinosaurs. The Big and Little book was My Dinosaur Counting Book. The Kinder Friends book was Some Dinosaurs. The Phonics Library book was A Vat. Your child also brought home two (2) more Word and Picture Books to add to their personal library.

We added another new word to the Word Wall this week. These words are sight words that students are not able to sound out. So far, the Word Wall words are: I, see, my, like, a, and this week's word, to. We made a major step forward this week in reading. With the introduction of the short a sound (Andy Apple) the kindergarten students should be able to read many consonant-vowel-consonant words (CVC) such as mat, sat, rat, hat, vat and Nat. Your child should also be able to reads the -an words such as man, ran, and van.

We also made a big jump forward in mathematics this week. Instead of having a single page worksheet, the students will be doing double-sided work sheets. This provides them with the opportunity to revisit and practice concepts previously taught. We have been working extensively with set; comparing sets, making equal sets and creating a new set with one more than the original set. We have been working extensively on numbers to nine (9). Your child should be able to count any number of objects up to nine, recognize and name the numbers to 9, and sequence all the numbers from 0-9.

Progress reports for children who are experiencing difficulties were mailed home today. If you have any questions, please contact me. We are halfway through the second quarter of school. Report cards will be given out and parent conferences will held at the beginning of February.

There will be a holiday assembly Friday morning, Dec. 21 in our multi-purpose room. We will be performing. If you plan to attend, be aware that there will be a special seating section in the rear of the room for visitors. The chairs in front are for the sixth grade students, teachers and staff.