

**BEAR**

**FACTS**

 September 22, 2023

***Teaching children of God the skills needed for a lifetime of learning, worshipping, and caring that the world sees Jesus in them.***

Dear Parents,

Fall begins tomorrow. The mornings and evenings certainly feel “fallish”. We’re beginning to decorate our room to look like fall—a beautiful time of the year—our world becomes God’s colorful masterpiece.

In Jesus Time we continued with the story of creation. We made it through day 5—God created the birds of the air, the fish (and other water creatures) of the sea, and all other animals to roam our land. They were all friendly animals, and none of them were dangerous in the beginning.

Ditto dog and his friend Dudley came to visit us this week, helping us to learn about the letter “D” and the sound that it makes. “D” can be a little tricky, because it looks so much like the lower case “b”. Our writing has gotten neater, and we’re working hard to stay within the lines. We’re beginning to do more of our papers independently. The pictures are “read” for us so we know what each item is called. We’re working on writing our first and last name.

We did a short unit on dinosaurs. We know that there are no more living dinosaurs—they are all extinct. Your child should be able to tell you that Tyrannosaurus Rex was the most fierce of all. He was a meat eater, with a mouth big enough for a whole watermelon. Brontosaurus was unique because he had two brains—one in his head, and one in his tail. Stegosaurus was also a plant eater. He had the protection of his boney shields and his spikes. Triceratops is one of the smaller dinosaurs. He has a huge shield of bone, and 3 very long horns—about as long as we are tall. Your child should be able to give you some of this information on these huge creatures of long ago. Dinosaur begins with “D”. We’re finishing up a short booklet that we made on dinosaurs to help us remember some of the special things about them.

The Happy Sacks will come home with **Dominic, Cristian, Cortnee** and **Charles.** We’ll anxiously await a special “E” thing brought in your bag. Bags are sent home on Monday.

We’re working on recognizing and writing numerals 0-19. Don’t forget, we’ll be testing over this as well as letters October 12. We drill daily, but it is always helpful for you to review them at home. This is a confidence builder. We “celebrated” the 20th day of kindergarten this week. We added 10 more stickers to our 100th Day Sticker chart. Counting Caterpillar has 23 “pieces”, as he crawls around our classroom.

 We’ve learned the pledge to the flag, and “God Bless America”. We’re reinforcing that we are students at Atonement Lutheran School, we all live in Missouri, and our country is the United States of America. We’re beginning to learn the National Anthem.

Books Read to Me News-- The minimum is 1 list per month. We’ve been in school a month now, so if you haven’t gotten that first list in, please do so NOW. Reading to your child is so important to their beginning reading. Congratulations to **Kennedy** earning her certificate for **50 books.** Keep it up! Welcome to **Cortnee**—she now has her first list of 10 turned in.

Check out our newest Kindergarten Kid—**Charles.** He is a very affectionate, hardworking young man. He is featured on the bulletin board outside our room, and also on the Web Page. Remember, you’ll have to go to the Kindergarten Page (click on the box in the upper left corner) to see Charles. atonementbb.com.

 We tested over saying the days of the week. If your child was able to say this, there is a certificate in the folder. If not, a note is in the folder stating that I will retest. We say this daily at school**. Next Thursday, September 28, the** **children will be asked to tell their telephone number—including the area code**. We do not work on this here, as everyone’s is different—naturally.

Your child brought home a library book from the Atonement Library yesterday. It is due back in two weeks—October 5. They are given a little guidance by Mr. J., but they select their own book. I suggest your returning the book to their bags as soon as finished, so it doesn’t get lost.

Many of us are having difficulty with rhyming. We’re working on it here, but if you’re reading, or even speaking, and hear two words that rhyme, make note of it with your child.

 **\*\*Please remember that your $15 party money is due on Monday.** This is to defray the cost of the parties that the Party Parents will be planning.

**\*\***Next week, we will do a unit on Johnny Appleseed. I’d like for each child to **bring one apple.**  The apple will be returned, uneaten. You may begin bringing in the apples on Monday, but I need them all by Thursday morning—September 28. We’ll compare them by color, size, etc. See if you can come up with one that maybe most of the class won’t bring. We’ve begun to learn a song-prayer that is sung by Johnny.

We experienced our first fire drill this week. We will have these monthly, so that we’ll know how to keep safe, in case of a real fire.

Kind of thinking ahead, the next APTO special “spirit day” is Friday, October 13. It will be SUPER HERO DAY. Be thinking ahead, as they are giving a prize for class participation. It can be something simple as a cape, a shirt with a HERO SYMBOL, a symbol cut out and attached to a shirt, etc. Something indicating HERO. We are striving for 100% participation.

We’ve learned another end of the day prayer—also sung. It is one that would be perfect for an at home bed-time prayer. **Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay—close by me forever, and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and take me to heaven to live with Thee there.**

Have a wonderful fall weekend.

Blessings~ Doris Eggers