BEAR FACTS February 1, 2024

Hello! I hope everyone has been having a nice week. **Just a reminder that there is no school tomorrow, Friday, February 2nd for Teacher In-Service Day.**

This week we learned about the letter Q. We worked really hard on making the lower case q, making sure the tail curls up. We watched some videos and read some books to give us some good ideas of things that started with this letter. Our new sight words are **do, has,** **heart**, and **purple.** There is also the second “Read These Words” coming home today on the left side of your child’s Friday folder. Please have your child read the words and sentences, sign the bottom, and return by the following Wednesday. Thanks!

In Math, we started using ten frames when counting. These are super duper easy for us to do. Right now, we are only adding up to ten, and once we have that skill down, we will move to adding double ten frames. We are able to match the given number to the correct ten frame, as well as drawing the correct number of objects inside the ten frame.

For Science, we are talked about how our brain works and how important it is for us to use our brain when handling our emotions. Having that power can help us to make good choices as well. Mrs. Ryals did an amazing job at presenting this idea to the children. She went over “The Brain House”, which talks about your upstairs and downstairs brain. In the upstairs brain, we think, plan, problem solve, etc. Our downstairs brain controls our feelings. Both need to work together to have our brain be at its best. We demonstrated this by making facial expressions in a mirror of what we might look like when we are in our upstairs or downstairs brain. We played a game too, by jumping back and forth between the two, which was a lot of fun!

Last week, Mrs. Hill (Alana’s mom) did a wonderful presentation for our class about Alana. Alana was born with Juvenile Polyposis Syndrome, which is a rare disease. She brought in a doll that was just like Alana, and showed us how she gets some of her food and why it is so important to be safe around her. There are pictures of this on the classroom website! She shared a book with our class as well that talked about these things. Thank you so much for talking with us, Mrs. Hill. We work hard at keeping all our friends safe at Atonement.

**Kaliyah** is our newest Kindergarten Kid! She is an absolute sweetheart who loves giving her friends and teachers the nicest compliments. Be sure to take a look at her pictures on the classroom website.

**Happy Sacks** will come home next week with **Rylee, Ryland, Kennedy, and Kaliyah.** We are looking for something that starts with the **letter R**. We are excited to see what you can find.

Congratulations to **Books Read to Me** certificate earners this week**– Althea** with **250, Charles** with **200, and Cortnee** with **100!** Keep up all of the great work!

Happy 5 ½ birthday to **Jada**! Since her birthday is in the summer, we celebrated this week in class. Thank you so much for the yummy cupcakes! They were the perfect treat! God’s blessings to you, Jada!

The **100th Day** of school is approaching quickly. We will celebrate this day on **Thursday, February 15th.** That week in general is going to be a very busy week with Valentine’s Day, the party, as well as Ash Wednesday. We will do lots of fun activities in class to celebrate the 100th day. I am asking that your child bring 100 pieces of their favorite cereal for snack. They should count it out, with help if needed, and bring the pieces to school in a bag or container on that day. I will provide the bowls, spoons and milk. They are not required to, but may dress like they are 100 years old, or even wear a shirt decorated for that day. This is completely up to you and whatever you would like to do. Dressing up that day is not required though.

Also a reminder that the **Valentine’s Day Party will be Tuesday, February 13th**, due to Ash Wednesday falling on the 14th. A class list of names, as well as a pink paper explaining that day was sent home last Friday in your child’s folder.

Mark you calendars for **Saturday, March 9th! Trivia Night** will be taking place at Atonement. It is a fun night for the whole family if you would like to reserve a table. There is a flier in today’s folder about this. Thank you to those that have returned $5 for the classroom Trivia Night basket. This money is due by February 16th, in order to shop for the items for the basket. Our theme for Kindergarten will be Gardening.

**February 20-23 will be Lutheran Schools Week.** There are assemblies planned, as well as some projects we will be working on in class. We are partnered with 5th graders to put together a skit that portrays the Fruits of the Spirit that we were assigned ( ours are Joy and Gentleness). We are learning a song, and the kids are doing a great job with it. Later in the week, we will be putting together a presentation about a culture within a country. Kindergarten will be researching Mexico, and we will be doing this together in class over the next few weeks. I will have more information as the weeks go on once we get this project started.

Please continue to keep Mrs. Eggers in your prayers as she heals. I have spoken to her over the phone, and she misses everyone tremendously. Thanks to Mrs. Ryals and Mrs. Hill for all their help in Kindergarten! I hope you and your family have a great weekend. I look forward to seeing everyone next week.

Blessings,

Amy Washburn