

2009



2010

Director ~ Carol Yilmaz

Principal ~ Roberta Tropper

~*Monthly Workshop*~

**REMINDER—Our next Parent Workshop is
Tuesday, March 9th, at 9:00 a.m.**

Parent/Teacher Conferences: **REMINDER—**Conferences are Friday, March 12, 2010. There is no school on that day, and children are not permitted in the building under any circumstances. Your confirmation went home Thursday indicating your conference time.


Transportation: Don't forget to register with your home school district transportation office no later than April 1, 2010 to secure bus service for your child for Kindergarten for the 10/11 school year.


Valentine's Fun: We had a lovely time at our Valentine's party on the 12th. We had pizza for lunch and gave out Valentine's to our friends. Thanks to Grace's mom for bringing heart shaped sugar cookies and chocolate, and for helping us make animal bag puppets.


Book Fair: Our spring book fair will be held March 8th—15th, and the Pre-K children will visit it on the 11th. The Book Fair will also be open on March 12th (Parent/Teacher Conference day) if you would like to stop by.


****Spring Photos will take place on Thursday, March 25, 2010****


~SPECIALS~


 **Computer with Mrs. Schnurer:** Students continued reading interactive stories independently and as a group. They enjoyed computer programs in which they completed activities for Groundhog's Day and Valentine's Day. Students also explored the paint applications in Microworlds.

 **Phys. Ed. with Mr. O'Shea:** This month, we played games that helped learn gross motor movements. We learned to use our large muscle groups with a bear crawl and crab walk. We also learned how to skip, shuffle and hop.

 **Library with Mrs. Simon:** February has been a very short month for library visits. We listened to stories and are learning to write our names and Pre-K on our bookmarks. We started singing A-B-C songs, too. We are always encouraged to visit our local public libraries.

 **Science with Mrs. Scher:** The Garden-In-A-Cup project has begun. Each child mixed Jiffy Mix and water to make mud soup. Next, they spooned the mud soup into a planting cup, made holes with a stick and put one seed in each hole. We used corn, bean, cucumber, and radish seeds and will measure the plant as it grows.

 **Music with Mrs. Myers:** We learned a new song about Abraham Lincoln, kept a steady beat on rhythm sticks as we sang the verses, and took turns playing the triangle and sticks on special words. We celebrated Valentine's Day with a Valentine song and played word rhythms with un-pitched percussion. Taking turns playing different instruments allowed everyone to experience every part. An action song from the book, Did You Ever See a Lassie?, finished out the month. We're learning the difference between playing a steady beat and playing word rhythms. These are difficult concepts that we will address throughout the year.

 **Spanish with Dr. Wilcox:** We have been busy practicing our Mexican dances this month. We are learning "La Raspa" and "La Cucaracha."

~What We Did in February~

Reading/Phonics: We reviewed and reinforced new sight words by playing a game and reading a poem. We completed the Aa word family and began working on the Ee word family. We reviewed the concept of capitalization and punctuation. We learned about nouns and how to classify them. This month, we introduced our writing folders and worked together on them. Some of us learned about alphabetical order while others continued writing in complete sentences using proper sentence structure. Some of us read Frog and Toad Together and others read Freckle Juice. We were all busy learning new vocabulary words for the first chapters and learned about attribute webs. We filled out an attribute web for the main character in each book.

Math: We related plane shapes and solid figures by tracing around a solid figure to see what plane shape we made (ie: tracing a cube creates a square). We learned that shapes match if they are the same size. We defined the word symmetry and folded various shapes in half to illustrate symmetry. We used pattern blocks to illustrate what a slide, flip and turn would look like. We used tangrams to create pictures of fish and flowers. We began a unit on fractions and read the books Eating Fractions and Rabbit and Hare Divide an Apple. We discussed how they divided different foods and if each would get an equal share. We talked about what a whole is and that a fraction is an equal part of the whole. We learned what $1/2$, $1/3$, and $1/4$ is and divided shapes into these fractions. We also learned the parts of a fraction—numerator and denominator.

Social Studies: We learned what a symbol is and looked at symbols of our country. We read a poem called An American Symbol. Using our Big Books, we looked at the American Flag, the Bald Eagle, Liberty Bell, and the Statue of Liberty. We created a booklet with the information we learned about each. We also read about the White House, and the children were amazed it had 132 rooms! We discussed President's Day and who we honor. We looked at a poster of all the presidents and focused on George Washington and Abraham Lincoln and read books about each one. We discussed the differences in their backgrounds and the similarities of their character. We passed around currency that had each president on it, looked at Washington's 3-cornered hat and Lincoln's stove pipe. We talked about what multi-cultural means and looked at a globe and located the land and the water. We saw the 7 continents and named each one. We read a lot of books on the culture and customs of Japan, Italy, and Ireland, and the stories Ming and the Magic Pebble, Strega Nona and Fin M'Coul. On Thursday, the entire school celebrated International Day and our class represented Mexico. Profesora Wilcox taught us two special dances, which we performed on the stage at our assembly.

Special Topics: We celebrated Ground Hog's Day by reading Gregory's Shadow and matched animals to their shadows. We saw a picture of a ground hog up close using our Let's Find Out magazine and found out that Holtsville Hal saw his shadow and now we have six more weeks of winter.

Happy Birthday

Riya Mitra ~ 3/1 Mrs. Kornberg ~ 3/21
Ashlee Cox Pinckney ~ 3/31

