

Mrs. Graber's Kindergarten News

Friday, May 15th, 2009

The chicks hatched!



Look at what we have been doing...

We hope that you enjoyed our Mother's Day Show and Slideshow. It was so nice to see all of our moms and be able to show all of you how much we appreciate you!

Chick News...

We are proud to announce the birth of 6 chicks! It has been such an exciting week watching the chicks. Six chicks is a fairly good hatch. We discovered three eggs that were not fertilized and three eggs that just never hatched (two struggled to hatch and one died a few days before the hatch). We have already learned so much and will be continuing our Oviparous Animal theme through next week.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Mon., 5/25 ~ No school
- ◆ Wed., 6/10 ~ Karigon Field Day
- ◆ 6/12 and 6/19 ~ No PM K
- ◆ Tues., 6/23 ~ Last Day of Kindergarten

Some friendly warmer weather reminders...

We will be going outside on most days so please have your child wear shoes that are safe for climbing and playing (preferably not flip flops). The playground also has small stones so sandals or crocs can be uncomfortable for some kids.

Also, our classroom gets very hot in these last few months so please dress appropriately.

A few other highlights...

- Egg to Chick journals
- Making oviparous animals out of clay
- Drawing and writing about oviparous animals
- "Eggs" poem and many non-fiction read alouds
- Math: measuring with a "foot"; May calendar
- Monet: we painted water lilies
- Spring sketches
- Writing: books about mom
- Portraits of our moms
- I also worked on some assessment this week with the children including sight words, reading passages, and a dictated sentence

- Computer: Guess the Artist game: you can access this on our class webpage; math addition and subtraction practice

GraberMart: The GraberMart will be opening in a few weeks. Thank you for all of your donations! I'm sure it was good for you to "recycle" some items as well. Luckily for you, you will be seeing some new items come home in a few weeks when your child decides on what purchases to make at the GraberMart. Just a reminder, you don't need to send in any money. We will be providing the pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters and the children will get some great practice using coins and making change.

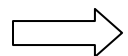
Sharing Themes...

Please help your child remember to bring something for sharing. We have had many children unprepared lately.

Week of 5/18: I am asking each child to tell us a joke.

Week of 5/26: We begin a three week theme on the Zoo: share anything related to zoo animals and zoos.

Week of 6/1: Please bring 3 clues describing a zoo animal and we will guess.



REMINDER...

FATHER'S DAY: Donuts with Dad 8:30-9:30 (AM class) and Dessert with Dad 12:00-1:00 (PM class): Thursday, June 18th, 2009! Get ready for some dancing fun Dads!

**Character Word of the Month:
TRUSTWORTHINESS**

Some information for when I am out on maternity leave...

As you heard, we are so lucky to have Mrs. Lange as our substitute teacher at the end of the school year! Since I plan on working as long as possible, Mrs. Lange is currently "on call." I'm guessing you'll hear the baby news as soon as it happens! This will likely be the last newsletter for Kindergarten. While I am out the best way to reach Mrs. Lange will be by calling Karigon at 881-0530 extension 42013 or by writing her a note. She will not have access to my email. I'm sure she will send home any necessary information through notes in your child's folder. We will of course be in contact throughout the remainder of the school year. I will be doing the June report cards as well. It has been an honor to be your child's Kindergarten teacher! Thank you for sharing them with me this year!

Other News...

Mrs. Payette, also known as "Grandma Tippy Toes," will be visiting our class for the next three Wednesdays to share songs related to our themes. She came this week and we LOVED it! Ask your child about her visit.

Summer Reading...

Some parents have asked me to recommend books for summer reading. I have put together a packet that I am asking Mrs. Lange to distribute in early June. I think you will find that helpful. One of my favorite series for a beginning reader is the Brand New Readers box sets. They are leveled readers which can be purchased at Borders or amazon.com. They should provide many opportunities for sounding out words and recognizing sight words. The boxed set is also geared towards parents and has some additional ideas. The important thing is that your child is reading daily. Thank you!

Congratulations to Emma Jane (AM class) and her family on the birth of baby Madeline! Emma Jane's mom had her baby on the same day the chicks hatched! We found that very funny!

Overheard in Kindergarten...

- "I wasn't too happy when I found out another baby was coming."
- "I hope my mom knows how hard I worked on this book."
- "I really am a good focuser."
- "Those poor chicks have no room left in those little eggs."
- "Ohhh, another day in school."
- "I hope it doesn't take as long for your baby to come out as it does for these chicks to break through the egg."
- "You really are a strange one sometimes."
- "I can't believe it is really chick hatching day."

You can email Mrs. Graber at grabkris@shenet.org