

Mrs. Smith's Smidgens

Issue #3

September 4, 2026

Name Writing

When students write their name, we focus on their first name. Only the first letter of their name is to be a capital letter, all the rest of the letters are lowercase. Letters start at the top and go down to the bottom and are made from left to right. We began focused practice on name writing this week in class. Name writing will be discussed at our upcoming Parent Spalding Training meetings.

Apple Day

Thurs., Sept. 10th

Each student is asked to bring an apple for some class activities, and it would be awesome for each student to also bring some kind of apple snack for Snack Time. Snack ideas include apple slices, apple sauce, apple chips, an apple fruit bar or another whole apple.

Parent Spalding Training

Parent Spalding Training will be held in our classroom. Bring your phonogram cards! Order them in Infinite Campus ASAP if you have not already done so. Please attend only 1 session. No children, please!

Important Dates

Mon., Sept 7th

NO SCHOOL
Labor Day

Thurs., Sept. 10th

Apple Day

Thurs., Sept. 10th

Parent Spalding
Training 6:00-7:00 pm

Fri., Sept. 11th

Parent Spalding
Training 8:30-9:30 am

Tues., Sept. 15th –

Thurs., Sept. 17th
Sound in a Sack Begins

Thurs., Sept. 17th

Grandparents' Day
AM Program 10:00 am
PM Program 2:00 pm

Thurs., Sept. 24th

Mother Goose Day

Thurs., Sept. 29th

School Picture Retakes
Must wear TCA uniform

Thurs., Oct. 8th and

Fri., Oct. 9th

Parent/Teacher
Conferences
(by appt.)

Mon., Oct. 12th –

Fri., Oct. 16th
NO SCHOOL
Fall Break

Curriculum

Math: This week's topics included Count to 5, Count Things Up to 5, and Recognize the Numbers 1 to 3. We also enjoyed "5 Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed!"

Core Knowledge: We continued Our Five Senses science unit. Our focus this week was hearing and smelling. Next week we will study touching and tasting.

Phonograms: I introduced a (3 sounds), d (1 sound) and f (1 sound) this week. Next week I hope to teach g (2 sounds), s (2 sounds) and qu (1 sound).

Language Arts: We focused on writing "clock letter" phonograms o, c, a, d and f, letter naming, practicing phonemic awareness skills, reciting nursery rhymes, and learning about narrative writing.

Read Aloud Books: The Little Red Hen by Paul Galdone, Chicken Little by Laura Rader, The Bremen Town Musicians by Brian Wildsmith and The Five Senses: Using Your Senses by Rebecca Rissman

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Take Home Folders

Parents, please go through the contents of your student's take-home folder with them each week. They need to see their work as well as the corrections to their work. Here at the beginning of the school year, some students need to see their name written "the TCA way" so they can begin to write it that way themselves. Look for the red apple "HOMEWORK" stamp on papers to be completed at home and returned. If you ever have any questions or concerns about the work your student brings home, please let me know!

Volunteers

I still have many volunteer spots open in both my AM and Pm Classes for parent volunteers for most of our "Specials" classes. Please contact me if you are interested

Grandparents Day: Thurs, Sept. 17th

This is for your student's grandparents or "adopted" grandparents. A bright pink flyer was sent home with students last week. The AM Class will present during the AM Grandparents' Day Program; the PM Class will present during the PM Grandparents' Day Program.

Mother Goose Day

Mother Goose Day is coming up! Thurs., Sept. 24th will be the grand finale to our nursery rhyme unit. Students will be reciting a favorite nursery rhyme as well as have the opportunity to dress up as a character or something that represents their nursery rhyme. I will help and encourage your student with their recitation as needed. Parents are invited to join us for the festivities from 9:30-11:30 for AM Class and from 12:15-2:15 for the PM Class. No siblings allowed. Our Special Guest will be Mother Goose!

Assessments

Beginning of Year (BOY) Assessments are almost completed! Hoping to wrap them up next week and share results with you on Mon., Sept. 14th.

Something to Ponder

*"All labor that uplifts humanity
has dignity and importance
and should be undertaken
with painstaking excellence."*

Martin Luther King Jr.

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