Mrs. Smith's Smidgens
Issue #5

September 18, 2026

Number Writing

We are continuing to learn to write numbers the "TCA way" in our Book of Numbers. You have the rhymes we say in class in the handouts from the Parent Spalding Class. Your student may now practice writing these numbers at home: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 0.

Remember, our TCA numbers always sit on the baseline, and our TCA numbers do not touch the top as they are smaller than letters.

Grandparents' Day

Thanks for sharing your student's grandparents! Students did an awesome job at the Program. They recited the poem "These Are Grandma's Glasses" and sang the songs "I've Got Something in My Pocket" and "Let's Go See Our Grandparents." If grandparents could not attend, perhaps have your child call or FaceTime grandpa and/or grandma to share. Next week some grandparent artwork will go home. It was just too crazy to get it all sent home yesterday!

Parent- Teacher Conferences

Check your email for the link that was sent yesterday to sign up for your Fall Parent-Teacher Conference. Conferences are for parents only; no children.

Curriculum

Math: This week's topics included Recognizing the numbers 1 to 5 as well as counting and matching. We also completed number books pages for 3, 4, 5 and 0.

Core Knowledge: We concluded Our Five Senses unit. We learned more about apples and Johnny Appleseed. Next week we begin the unit called Let's Explore Our World!

Phonograms: I introduced qu (1 sound), b (1 sound), e (2 sounds) and h (1 sound). Next week I plan to introduce i (2 sounds), j (1 sound), k (1 sound) and l (1 sound).

Language Arts: We focused on writing "clock letter" phonograms we began writing "line letter" phonograms, letter naming, practicing phonemic awareness skills, reciting nursery rhymes, learning about narrative writing, making CVC (consonant vowel consonant) words with phonogram cards, writing CVC words on our handwriting papers and reading CVC words!

Read Aloud Books: Johnny Appleseed by Steven Kellogg and Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa by Anne Dewdney

Important Dates

Thurs., Sept. 24th
Mother Goose Day
AM Class 9:30-11:30
PM Class 12:15-2:15

Thurs., Sept. 29th
School Picture Retakes
Must wear TCA uniform

Thurs., Oct. 8th and Fri., Oct. 9th
NO SCHOOL
Parent/Teacher Conferences
(by appt.)

Mon., Oct. 12th – Fri., Oct. 16th
NO SCHOOL
Fall Break

Fri., Oct. 23rd
Catamount Institute "In School" Field Trip
All AM and PM students will attend 8:15 am – 12:15 pm. Watch for more details.

Thurs., Nov. 19th
Thanksgiving Feast

Mon., Nov. 23rd – Fri., Nov. 27th
NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break

Fri., Dec. 4th OR Fri., Dec. 11th
Middle of Year (MOY) DIBELS Testing
(by appt.)

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Taught Phonograms

o, c, a, d, f,
g, s, qu, b, e, and h

Week of Sept. 21st Sound in a Sack

"b"

b and d Writing

Here is what we say in class when writing the phonograms/letters b and d. You can use these at home with your student.

b: "The bat is bigger than the ball."

d: "The doorknob opens the door."

Library

Students did not have Library Class this week due to Grandparents' Day, and students will not have Library Class next week due to Mother Goose Day. Students were given the choice to keep their library or return it on Thursday. They will have the same option next Thursday. Library Class will resume on Thursday, Oct 1st for students.

Mother Goose Day

Mother Goose Day is next Thurs., Sept. 24th! If you have questions or concerns about Mother Goose Day, please contact me sooner rather than later! Parents are invited to join us from 9:30-11:30 for the AM Class and from 12:15-2:15 for the PM Class. The RSVP link was sent on Tuesday, and the RSVP form will close on Wednesday, Sept. 23rd at 2:00 pm. No siblings allowed. Our Mother Goose nursery rhyme books with all the rhymes we have learned will be going home that day. The nursery rhymes included in the book are:

*Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star
*Jack and Jill
*Mary Had a Little Lamb
*Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear
*Little Miss Muffet
*Hey Diddle, Diddle
*Humpty Dumpty
*Hickory, Dickory Dock
*Jack Be Nimble
*1, 2, Buckle My Shoe
*Baa, Baa Black Sheep
*Little Boy Blue
*Itsy, Bitsy Spider
*There Was an Old Woman
*Peter, Peter Pumpkin Easter

Something to Ponder

"Nobody can do for little children
what grandparents do.
Grandparents sort of sprinkle stardust
over the lives of little children."

Alex Haley, American Writer and Author

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