Mrs. Smith's Smidgens
Issue #11

November 6, 2026

Parent Helpers

Students will be weaving placemats for our upcoming Thanksgiving Feast on Thurs., Nov. 12th. AM Class will be weaving from 11:00-11:30 and PM Class will be weaving from 3:00-3:30. Parent volunteers, with a cleared background check, would be greatly appreciated! Please let me know, via email or text, if you would like to help. Sorry, no siblings allowed.

2-Letter Phonograms

We began learning 2-letter phonograms this week! There will be no "homework" going home to practice writing 2-letter phonograms as there was with the alphabet phonograms. Instead, we will be doing lots of handwriting practice in class. Feel free to have your student practice handwriting at home as you see the need. Many handwriting papers that go home will have "extra" space for practicing.

New Handwriting Paper

We began a new type of handwriting paper this week! I am attaching a copy of it to this newsletter so you may print it for at-home use.

Important Dates

Thurs., Nov. 12th
LAST CALL
Thanksgiving Feast
Placemat Weaving

Thurs., Nov. 12th
TCA Fall Parent Academy
Central Campus
6:30-8:00 PM See Pg. 2 for details

Thurs., Nov. 19th
Thanksgiving Feast
Curriculum Day
Details will be sent soon!

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.)
Sign up coming in November

Wed., Dec. 16th
All-Kindergarten Holidays Around the World Christmas Concert
AM Class 10:00am-11:00 am
PM Class 2:00pm-3:00pm

Thurs., Dec. 17th
Class Christmas Parties

Curriculum

Math: This week we began the unit Shapes and Solids. We will complete that quick next week as well as begin a new unit Height, Length, Weight and Capacity.

Core Knowledge: We learned about Native Americans in these regions: the Northwest Coast, the Southwest and the Plains. Students made totem poles! Next week we will focus on the Woodlands region.

Read Aloud Books: The Shape of Things by Dayle Ann Dodds and The Very First Americans by Cara Ashrose.

Phonograms: This week we began learning 2-letter phonograms! The first two we learned were "sh" (my favorite!) and "ee, double ee." Next week I plan to teach: "th" (2 sounds), "ow, the cow is in the snow" (2 sounds), "ou" (4 sounds!), and "oo" (2 sounds).

Language Arts: Reviewing alphabet phonograms, writing phonograms on new handwriting paper, practicing phonemic awareness skills, building words with phonogram cards, writing and reading words. We also read aloud together the final "Fun with Phonics" Reader: Baby Bug.

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Written Phonogram Review #5
Thurs., Nov. 5th
h, i, u, j, k, l, m and n
Taught Phonograms
Alphabet Phonograms a – z, sh and ee
Sound in a Sack Week of Nov. 10th
"h"

Baggie Book Reminders

Your student's 2nd Baggie Book was sent home on Thursday! It is to be returned to school on Wednesday, Nov. 11th so your student can receive a new Baggie Book on Thursday, Nov. 12th.

*Baggie Books are to be returned to school on Wednesday only.

*Baggie Books are sent home on Thursday.

*If a Baggie Book is not returned on Wednesday but returned on Thursday, I may or may not be able to process a new Baggie book that day. It depends on my schedule.

*Please complete and sign the Baggie Book Log each week and return it with the book in the baggie.

*Baggie Books start out easy on purpose! I want to build students' confidence that they can read before challenging them too much.

*I put a bookmark/sticker chart in your student's Baggie Book bag. I will put a sticker on that bookmark each week your child returns their Baggie Book. It's a fun way for your student to track how many Baggie Books they have read in Kindergarten! 😊

Mark Your Calendars: Holidays Around the World Concert

Please save the date and note the time of your student's concert! Wednesday, December 16th
AM Class Concert: 10:00am-11:00am PM Class Concert: 2:00pm-3:00pm
Family and friends are invited and encouraged to attend!

Something to Ponder

"The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go!"
Dr. Seuss
(This applies to kids and grown-ups!)

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