

# Kindergarten



Dear Families,

Another great week in Kindergarten, with lots of letters, numbers, play and exploration. It was strange not to be here with the kiddos on Monday, but we managed to fill in the week as much as possible with the four days we did have.

We have finished our “letter of the day” and mystery box work this week, and I am thinking of more ways to support and develop the kindergartners’ understanding of letters and sounds. For a while we will let the mystery box lie dormant while we fill the morning meeting time with greetings, breathing activities, and energizers. I have been talking a lot with the class about ways to calm ourselves down when we are upset, as well as taking care of ourselves and others with kind and considerate words and actions. You might hear something about “filling our buckets” from the kids, which refers to filling ourselves with kind thoughts and actions. We talk about being a “bucket filler,” which means taking care of others, and not “bucket dippers” which is when there are unkind actions and words. This all comes from a book called Conscious Discipline which is a staff read this year for Tunbridge.

In math the kids are practicing writing their numbers, using correct hand grip and number formation, as well as understanding what these symbols represent in real world objects.

Please remember that on Wednesdays each week we head into the woods for “Forest School.” As the weather grows colder I plan to continue this, but students will need to have proper clothing (coats and soon, boots!) to join in.

Be on the lookout next week for a teacher/parent conference sign up sheet -- the month is flying by and it’s almost time!

Have a wonderful weekend!

--Elizabeth

## TASTE OF TUNBRIDGE

**On Thursday, October 20th at 6:00 we will have our third annual Taste of Tunbridge evening at school. Students and families are making food for a community potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to share, and join in the fun!**

**Share Time:** Sharing is becoming quite popular in the Kindergarten classroom, and I would like to continue having regular share times, but am setting a schedule so that kids know what day they can count on to have a special share moment. Please help your child remember his/her special day!

**Tuesdays:** Makayla, Bryer, Simon, Adelyn

**Wednesdays:** Wyatt, Landon, Adaciah, Josie

**Thursdays:** Tessa, Heron, Aven, Kade

**Fridays:** Ava, Emmalynn, Quinton, Asa

## Choice Time in Kindergarten



### CHOICE TIME

Each day in the Kindergarten classroom we have at least a half an hour of choice time. The kids will call it "play" time, and indeed, it is an open play period in the classroom. Before we begin, we have a class meeting to review and talk about what it means to share, include others, and practice some kind words and strategies for what to do when we disagree. Once the play begins, the students are engaged in a variety of fun activity. There is a lot of block building and lego designing, dramatic play with police, fire fighter, doctor and princess dress ups, a listening center with many excellent books, the sand table, drawing and coloring, puzzle making, train set play, tea parties, shop keeper play, and lots of other busy work. I love being a part of this time in the classroom, talking with the kids about their creative ideas, and interacting with them in play. This social time is so important for this age group, and I have seen some excellent cooperative and collaborative interactions.

