

# Kindergarten

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2016



The Fire Department visited us for Fire Safety lessons last Friday.



Making patterns using Fruit Loops and turning them into necklaces.



Dear Families,

I continue to have so much fun with your kindergarten kids, and am proud of the great work and behaviors I am seeing in the classroom. Throughout the week the students have handled me being out a day with Mrs. Lewis as my substitute; Mrs. Lewis (who helps out for about half the day in the classroom) out for a couple of days and our old teacher Mrs. Lyford back to help; and some wonderful volunteers in to work with us on literature, math and science projects (a special shout out to parents Evan Reiss and Liz York, and friend MaryLou Bradley!). The students have been welcoming and warm to people entering our room, and respectful of their teaching. Great job Kindergartners!

We had some fun with our pumpkins on Tuesday, cutting into them and scooping out the insides to count seeds, though I must admit I underestimated the number of seeds we'd have! On Wednesday I

brought back the seeds all cooked and we have been enjoying them for snack time ever since. After our pumpkins were all cut out we had fun carving faces. Then I put in some little lights in each of the pumpkins and we had a bunch of nice glowing faces. The pumpkins are now outside in the garden, where we get to keep an eye on them and watch as they change over time (as long as we can see them under the snow!).

In math we have continued to work on our number sense, as well as patterns, and we are focusing on numbers especially from 0 - 10, though also starting to work on recognizing and reading higher numbers. We are not writing these higher numbers yet, but will get to that in time.

You may have heard from your child about a "Clear the Halls" drill that we did as a school on Thursday. The kids did a good job of moving safely to a designated place and sitting quietly.

I talked to them that this was like a hide and seek game, and that we had to be quiet and still so that we could stay hidden. I want to make sure that the kids are not scared by this drill, but also want to make sure we all take it seriously. Thankfully, they all did great and seemed to enjoy it, not be scared by it.

Today is our class celebration of Halloween -- thank you to all the families who sent in such nice treats and goodies! I know that the kids will have a wonderful time. We are waiting to the end of the day before bringing them out -- but I am already hungry looking at everything!

Have a wonderful weekend!  
--- Elizabeth

## **NO SCHOOL MONDAY!**

Parent/Teacher conferences.

Make sure to call or email me if you forgot your time! I am also happy to change it if you need to.

# Science

In science I have various themes and topics that I am planning to cover this year, but my overall goal for the kindergartners is for them to have fun with exploration and discovery, and feed into that sense of wonder and curiosity. We began the year talking about our local school yard and the woods behind and what is there, using our Wednesday Forest School time to explore and investigate. The worms we had in the classroom were to bring the outside in, and also talk about how the worms outside were important helpers in the woods and garden. Since then we have read, discussed and experimented with the changing leaves, apples and apple trees, and pumpkins. In an effort to tie in the known with the unknown, I am working on themes that are

connected and relevant to the students, while also working to expand on their background knowledge to grow new understanding and develop further questions and answers.

At times science is quiet in the classroom, such as when we are reading a book or drawing pictures; and other times is messy and noisier like when we scooped out the pumpkins. Science is outside on Wednesday afternoons and students need to be prepared those days to be out in the cold and ready to explore the outdoors.

Through read aloud books, hands on experiments, drawings, discussions and creations, I hope that the Kindergartners grow to love science time and have fun while learning.



The day we put our worms in the garden and let them go -- we were happy to beat the snow fall!



*What fun we had with the help of Evan Reiss and others, carving out our pumpkins and counting our seeds. We enjoyed the pumpkins in the classroom for a couple of days with some lights in them, but now they are out in the garden where we will watch them change over time!*

