

MISS O'ROURKE'S KINDERGARTEN NEWS!



SEPTEMBER 4, 2009

OUR FIRST FULL WEEK OF THE REGULAR DAY SCHEDULE IN KINDERGARTEN WAS ABSOLUTELY STIMULATING, HERE ARE SOME OF THE FABULOUS THINGS WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING...

RELIGION: We began our first chapter titled, "I am a child of God" and discovered...

- That taking care of someone or something is a sign that a person or thing is special to us
- That God made us and we are children of God
- That God gives us all special gifts, i.e., hands for helping, hearts for loving, ears for listening, and a beautiful smile for laughing
- How to demonstrate our thanks to God for His love for us

**We had our second lesson on the Gospel for Sunday Mass and learned how Jesus cared for a person who was suffering. We related this to our own lives and how our mothers and fathers show love by caring for us when we are hurt or sick.

The children are learning to show reverence to God by being very calm and quiet while praying. Please continue practicing the Our Father and the proper way to make the Sign of the Cross before and after prayer with your child. Thank you!

MATH: We...

- Practiced identifying "same" and "different" by the attributes of color, shape, size, and kind
- Learned to sort things by one attribute
- Discovered how to decide which object doesn't belong in a group
- Participated in fun hands-on sorting activities with buttons, cubes, pattern blocks, and counters, and other sorting activities that Miss O'Rourke created on the Smart Board

LANGUAGE ARTS: We...

- Learned about the letters Aa, Bb, Cc, Dd, and Ee, and took turns practicing by tracing the proper way to write these letters on the Smart Board
- Practiced identifying and naming rhyming words like *cap, tap; dog, log; duck, luck; fox, socks; and goat, coat*
- Practiced using a couple of phrases that incorporate high-frequency words like *I am* and *My name is*, and choral read two stories with Miss O'Rourke, *I Am, Who Am I?*, and *Cat and Dog At School*
- Heard the stories Timothy Goes to School, The Adventures of Abby Alligator, Bubble Bear, Copycats, Detective Dog and the Disappearing Doughnuts, The Little School Bus, and My Five Senses

SCIENCE: We began our first chapter, "Objects All Around," and...

- Watched a very interesting video on the Smart Board about objects in our world
- Identified objects in the classroom
- Used our five senses to describe each object

SOCIAL STUDIES: From our first lesson in the unit, "Getting Along," we watched a cartoon and video on the Smart Board and heard more about what we are learning and practicing at school:

- What a rule is
- The importance of following rules, like raising one's hand and taking turns/sharing in both the classroom and on the playground
- Both children and grownups must follow rules
- Rules keep us safe
- Some of the consequences of breaking rules

Other things we have been doing:

- We checked out our first library book
- We started Special Person and Kinderbear
- We began learning our Calendar and Weather songs

New teachers we've met this week:

- We had our first computer class on Monday in the Computer Lab with Mrs. Haining. It was so amazing!
- We met our music teacher, Miss Viscia-King ("Miss V"), on Wednesday and sang our hearts out!

Notes from Miss O'Rourke:

- Please practice writing the letters of the alphabet as well as numbers with your child. Every little bit of practice helps! In the coming weeks writing demand will increase. Enclosed you'll find a letters and numbers sheet to help your child practice. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me at school.
- Just a reminder: Monday, September 7, 2009 is the Labor Day Holiday. There is no school.
- The library book that your child checked out this week should be returned on Tuesday, September 8, so that he/she will be able to check out a new book. Thanks!

Have a spectacular Labor Day weekend!



Sincerely,
~Miss O'Rourke