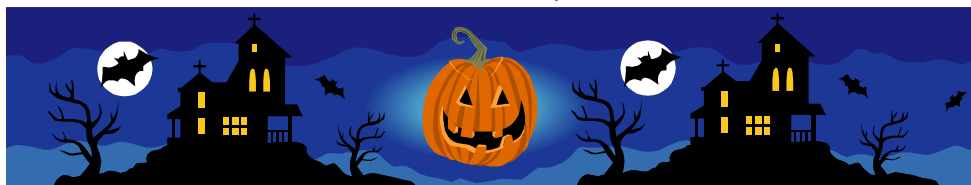


Kinder News

October 28, 2011



Religion

In Religion we talked about the word Father and what that means. We connected this to God our Father, our creator, who loves us so much. Because God loves us he gives us special people to help teach us about Him and our world. We took some time to thank people who help us learn new things.

***Remember to have your child practice saying the Golden Rule and the Great Commandment. These will be assessed as we near the end of the trimester.

Reading

This week we read a fun story called Big Pumpkin. In this story, a witch grew a huge pumpkin that was stuck on the vine. With her friends Ghost, Vampire, Mummy, and Bat, they worked together to pull the pumpkin off the vine and make pumpkin pie. We used this story to discover characters and discuss the setting. You may have also seen your student's work where they showed the beginning, middle, and end of this story. Recalling these parts of the story is a valuable comprehension strategy. We also made our Ghost Book. This book was created to help students practice reading our word wall words and learn reading strategies. Some

strategies your child may use with this story would be using the pictures for clues when they approach an unknown word, identifying familiar words, and looking at the beginning sounds to solve words. Next week we will be completing first trimester assessments that will be shared during conferences.

Math

This week we worked on interpreting graphs and learning how to correctly form the number one and two. During math for the next few months, we will really focus on correct formation of numbers. Handwriting Without Tears uses some great language to help children remember the correct formation. Please assist your child if you see this is something they have difficulty with. Continue to correct your child's numbers if you see reversals.

- 1- Starts at the starting corner, makes a big line down, and stops in the corner
- 2- Starts in the starting corner, makes a big curve, stops in the corner, and walks away on the bottom.

We also made a list of things that come in 2's (eyes, ears, legs, etc.) The students then got to pair manipulatives together. This is a great way to teach skip counting!

SCIENCE

This week concluded our study on the lifecycle of a pumpkin. We have read many books, made our own class books, and even sequenced the lifecycle of a pumpkin. Now we are drawing connections to trees and compare and contrasting their lifecycles. These high-level skills, such as comparing/contrasting and connecting, lead to better comprehension of concepts.

Would you like to donate a “pet” spider for our classroom? Please feel free to capture a spider and bring it to school for our discovery center (in a jar of course). We have many special spider activities planned for next week as well!

Word Wall Words

Next week we will be starting end of the trimester assessments. A kindergarten benchmark is to be able to **READ** all word wall words. We will also be asking the students to write these words. You will not see this skill on our first trimester progress report, as we will wait until all kindergarten words have been introduced. It is a great time to start practicing these words. Here are the words that will be assessed next week.

see	can
I	is
like	look
my	red
the	jump

HOMEWORK

Beginning next week, the kindergartners will be receiving homework each Tuesday night. We ask that it is sent back the following day, unless otherwise noted. If your child brings their homework back on time, they will receive a sticker on our homework chart. To encourage responsibility, we ask that you do not bring your child’s homework to school if they forget it.

The first homework assignment is a fun project for you to work on with your child. Directions will come home on TUESDAY and will not be due until WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9th!

FYI

- **Tuesday, Nov. 1st is All Saints Day.** This means we will have a Wednesday schedule on Tuesday and a Tuesday schedule on Wednesday (kindergarten will have art and music Tuesday and Technology on Wednesday).

Thank you and have a great weekend!

Mrs. Crandell
Mrs. Howard
Mrs. Morris