

November

November 13, 2017

Dear Parents,

On a personal note, my aunt, whom I am her only living relative became very ill on Friday and was rushed to the hospital. Her situation is extremely serious and as her only living relative and medical advocate it may be necessary for me to be absent from school unexpectedly during the next couple of weeks. I don't like to be absent without advanced notice, but I know that you can appreciate the situation that I am in and I certainly appreciate your understanding and flexibility during this difficult time for my husband and children.

Canned Food Drive

Thanksgiving is coming, a time for overeating, being with family, and shopping. But, not everyone in our community has enough to eat. So, let's help to make sure that this holiday season everyone has the opportunity to enjoy a holiday meal. **NJHS is sponsoring a canned food drive starting on Monday, Nov. 6, and running through Friday, Nov. 17. Our goal is to collect 2,500 cans of food to donate to the St. Clair Shores Goodfellows.** To help us reach our goal we are making this a competition between 1st hours at each grade level. The winning 1st hour at each grade level will receive cider and doughnuts on Wednesday, November 22, 2017. Please do not bring in expired cans as we will not be able to donate them. Your support is greatly appreciated!

English Language Arts

Letter and Word Work: We will focus on the letter Ee this week and next week. We will also work on proper letter formation, identifying the letter in print and sorting it from other letters. We will review the letters A-D as well. It is important skill for all of the students even those who may be working on more advanced skills such as reading sight words. It allows the students to review what they know and practice letter sound acquisition as well as improve their penmanship.

Reading: We have been working on reading informational text using context clues including word recognition of sight words, days of the week, color words, months of the year, and vocabulary words relating to News-2-You. We have discussed what makes Informational Text different from Narrative Text.

Handwriting: We have been focusing on printing letters and words neatly through a variety of activities including our writing our words/letters of the week, interactive math notebooks, and in class work.

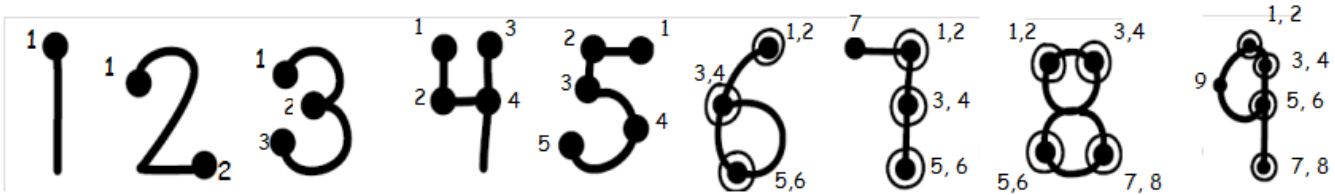
Editing/Grammar Work: We are starting to focus on writing a complete sentence to express a thought for our journals. We will focus on the concepts of sentences starting with a capital letter and ending in a punctuation mark. Currently, our focus is on ending a sentence with a period, but we will discuss question marks and exclamation points in the future. Students will learn to dictate their journal entries. Staff will write down a student's entry and then the student recopies the entry using neat handwriting and editing the writing either with or without editing marks to help them. Some students are able to edit their work without visual editing marks in their sentences while other students need the visual cues to help them edit their work. Students who are not ready to dictate their sentences can build their sentences using preselected picture symbols. Support is given to help each student express his/her thoughts fully.

Personal Information: Students have been working on memorizing and writing their personal information. Everyone is at a different level and pacing. Staff work with students individually to help improve their skill in this area.

Math

We are continuing to work on single digit addition for addends up to and including 5. Students will have one math page of homework each night (Monday – Thursday). In a few weeks we will also review how to use manipulatives to solve addition problems. Eventually we will be including adding numbers with a calculator to check our answers. This will allow students the opportunity to develop a variety of math skills and strategies to perform simple addition and subtraction. Memorizing math facts will be difficult for many students, but knowing how to perform a skill because he/she has been taught various strategies to perform said skill will increase success and retention.

Touch Points



Time to the Hour

We have begun to talk about telling time to the hour. The parts of the clock have been introduced including the face and the numbers, the hour hand (the short hand), and the minute hand (the long hand). We have discussed how the hour hand is shorter and that it is pointing to the number that is the hour. We have only discussed the minute hand in that when it points to the 12 that it means :00 minutes. We will continue to focus on this skill daily.

Skillstreaming

Our skillstreaming lesson for this week will continue to focus on turn taking. The students will review appropriate turn taking in a conversation and then practice identifying turn taking through modeling of appropriate and inappropriate behaviors. Attached is the sheet the students will be receiving this week regarding the skill. The powerpoint presentation is available on the class website at www.moci.weebly.com as well as on the classroom Schoology site.

Our Skillstreaming lesson this week will take place on Wednesday from 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. unless something comes up and Mrs. Glombowski and Mrs. Nichols are unable to make it to the lesson.

Remind

If you have not had the opportunity to sign up for Remind text messaging services you still can. ***You can sign up by texting @6fa2ea6 to the number 81010 and you will be added to my class list.*** I use this service to keep you informed of upcoming activities, reminders of early release dates, and other quick messages. I know that families who have signed up in the past appreciated having the service as an option to them. It can be easier than an email and paper notes. I have sent out several Remind texts so far this year. I have one scheduled for tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. Please look for it if you are signed up. Let me know if they are not reaching you and you have signed up for the service.

Cooking

We will be cooking hot lunch on Thursday November 16, 2017. The cost to each student is \$3.00. *Lunch money is due WEDNESDAY November 15, 2017 so that I can purchase the correct amount of food for those participating on Wednesday Evening.* Students who pay by Wednesday will cook and eat our classroom lunch on THURSDAY. Students who do not contribute or do not care for the food served will need to bring a lunch from home or get their lunch from the cafeteria as he/she would normally do during the week.

We will be making roast turkey breast, stuffing, mashed potatoes, corn, salad, rolls, fresh fruit, and lemonade.

IEPTS

As IEPT dates start to approach I will be contacting you to schedule your student's IEPT. I am hoping to have all IEPTS done by the end of March as in April and May we have to give the state MI-Access test to all students and that does take up a great deal of class time as well as require a great deal time outside of the school day preparing materials to give the test and document work with the testing materials. Please expect to have your student's IEPT about a month earlier than last year (i.e. February IEPT's will be scheduled for some time in January).

Class Website and Emailing Newsletter

The class website is up and running. The web address is: <http://moci.weebly.com> You will be able to view the weekly newsletter, monthly calendar, permission slips, classroom blog, web site links, and photos on this website. It is a continual work in progress.

Dates to Remember

- November 13, 2017.....I will be out of the classroom to attend an IEPT in the morning. Mrs. O'Keefe will be in the classroom.
- November 15, 2017..... Cooking Money Due \$3.00 per student
- November 16, 2017..... Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon
- November 20, 2017.....I will be out of the classroom in the afternoon. Ms. Trees will be the guest teacher from 11:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- November 22, 2017.....Half Day of School. Dismissal at 11:40 a.m.
- November 23 – 24, 2017.....NO SCHOOL/Thanksgiving Break
- November 28, 2017.....Friendship Circle
Bring a lunch from home

November 29, 2017.....Early Release. Dismissal 1:55 p.m.
 Cooking Money Due \$3.00 per student

November 30, 2017.....Cooking Lunch Day

December 1, 2017.....Teacher Record Day/NO SCHOOL

Jobs for this week

Mrs. Jasinski supervising:

Wash Dishes/Wash Laundry/Pass Newspaper/AM Messages	MaKayla
Pass Journals/Dry Dishes/Spray & Wipe Doorknobs/lights	Nick
Wipe kitchen tables & counters/Make Ice Packs/wipe windows & Mirrors	DeShawn

Mrs. Villasurda supervising:

Clean classroom tables 1-2/Shred	Paige
Shred/Clean Chairs	Antoine
Clean classroom tables 3-4/Folding Laundry	Amiyah

Mrs. Karle-Sloan supervising:

Teacher Helper/Pass Papers/Shred/Folding Laundry	Jayce
Pass out Today At School/Wipe Appliances/Dust/Sweep	Latariea
Clean Lockers/Trash/Empty Recycling Container/Shred	Gavin

I am available for telephone conferences before school, 8:15 a.m. – 8:28 a.m. (except for the third Tuesday of the Month), during my conference period: 11:45 a.m. – 12:20 p.m., and after school 3:40 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (all of these times are approximate). The classroom telephone number is 586-285-8858. You can also contact me via email. My email address is kkarle-sloan@lsp.org.

Please remember to call the **Kennedy Middle School Office** if your young adult will be absent from school so your young adult’s absence is marked as excused. If you do not call in the absence then it will be recorded as unexcused. **The telephone number for the main office at Kennedy is 586-285-8802. Please remember to call your bus compound.**

Kyrstyn Karle-Sloan

Judy Jasinski

Jennifer Villasurda