#

# November 13, 2017

Dear Parents,

This is a reminder that this is a shortened week with the Thanksgiving Holiday. Students and staff will be dismissed at 11:40 a.m. on Wednesday November 22, 2017 for the Thanksgiving Break. School will resume at 8:35 a.m. on Monday November 27, 2017. Best wishes for a safe and peace-filled holiday.

 I will be out of the classroom on the morning of November 27, 2017 due to an IEPT. This was a rescheduled IEPT from November 13, 2017 due to unforeseen circumstances. There will be a guest teacher in the classroom on Monday November 27, 2017 upon returning from Thanksgiving Break. I will return to the classroom around noon.

**English Language Arts**

**Letter and Word Work:** We will focus on the letter Ee this 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**

Thank you to all of the students who have been working so diligently on their homework. It is great to see such wonderful effort being put into what is expected. Thank you families for your time with this. We are continuing to work on single digit addition for addends up to and including 5.

Next week, we will begin adding single digit numbers up to 9. Students will have the opportunity to practice adding using those double touches. I know that it can be tricky, but practicing everyday will help. I don’t expect student to master this skill over night, but we do need to begin to practice this skill.

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**

The students are making very good progress with this skill during our math time. I will continue to teach this skill in class as well as include it with homework. Our current focus is just on telling time to the hour including identifying the parts: the face, 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 focus on Thanksgiving and being grateful/appreciative of the things you have. The power point presentation is available on the class website at [www.moci.weebly.com](http://www.moci.weebly.com) as well as on the classroom Schoology site.

Our Skillstreaming lesson this week will take place on Monday 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 making a bagel breakfast on Wednesday November 22, 2017**. Thecost to each student is $1.00 due by Wednesday Morning.

 ***Student will be offered a choice of a plain bagel or cinnamon raisin bagel toasted with cream cheese or butter as well as a glass of milk.***

**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 IEPTs 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 20, 2017………………………………….I will be out of the classroom all day.

November 22, 2017…………………………………Bagel Breakfast

 Half Day of School. Dismissal at 11:40 a.m.

November 23 – 24, 2017……………………………NO SCHOOL/Thanksgiving Break

November 13, 2017…………………………………I will be out of the classroom to attend an

 IEPT in the morning.

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 Gavin

Pass Journals/Dry Dishes/Spray & Wipe Doorknobs/lights MaKayla

Wipe kitchen tables & counters/Make Ice Packs/wipe windows & Mirrors Nick

***Mrs. Villasurda supervising:***

Clean classroom tables 1-2/Shred DeShawn

Shred/Clean Chairs Paige

Clean classroom tables 3-4/Folding Laundry Antoine

***Mrs. Karle-Sloan supervising:***

Teacher Helper/Pass Papers/Shred/Folding Laundry Amiyah

Pass out Today At School/Wipe Appliances/Dust/Sweep Jayce

Clean Lockers/Trash/Empty Recycling Container/Shred Latariea

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@lsps.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