



November 5, 2017

Dear Parents,

English Language Arts

Letter and Word Work: We will focus on the letter Dd again 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-C 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.

We will be making interactive letter notebooks. Much of the work we do as part of our lessons will be put into our notebooks. Those notebooks will come home at the end of school year.

Students are also currently working on reading a variety of sight words and common words including days of the week, months of the year, and color words. One small group of students will be working with me on one word per week.

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.

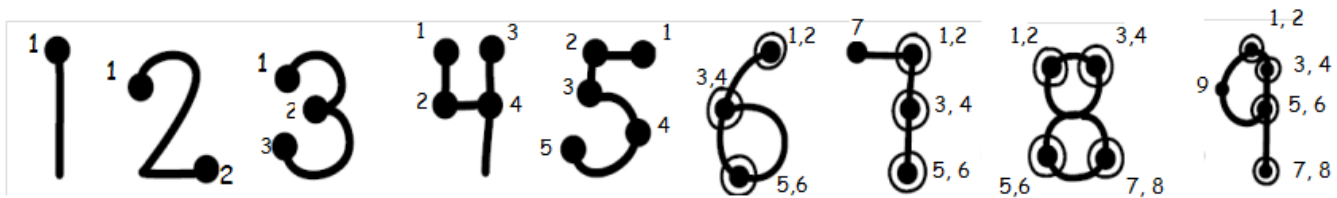
Personal Information: Students have been working on memorizing and writing their personal information. Everyone is at a different level and pacing. Staff work with students individually to help improve their skill in this area.

Math

This week we focus on learning the touchpoints on numbers 8-9 on Monday. Each touchpoint on numbers 1-5 is counted by one. Touchpoints on numbers 6-9 have two circles at each point. Each circle is counted once and allow the students to add numbers once they are able to remember how to count the touch points. The larger inside circle is counted first and the smaller, thinner circle surrounding the larger circle is counted second.

Last week, we began to practice simple single digit addition using single and double touchpoints. Overall the students did well, but we are completing work as a group to help ensure that they understand what to do to add using touchpoints. 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 that 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.

Skillstreaming

Our skilstreaming lesson for this week will 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.

Skillstreaming lessons will take place each 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.

Election Day Tuesday November 7, 2017

There is NO SCHOOL on Tuesday November 7, 2017. School will resume on Wednesday November 8, 2017 (which will be an early release day).

Early Release Wednesday

Our NEXT early release day is scheduled for **THIS Wednesday November 8, 2017.** Students will be dismissed at 1:55 p.m. Please expect your student home early. I have to attend a meeting and will NOT be available after dismissal.

Cooking

We will be cooking hot lunch on Thursday November 9, 2017. The cost to each student is \$3.00. ***Lunch money is due next WEDNESDAY November 8, 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 student choice of turkey sandwich or peanut butter and jelly sandwich (which will be prepared in a separate classroom), chicken noodle soup, salad, cut cucumbers, strawberry and red grape fruit salad, and drinks.

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 7, 2017.....NO SCHOOL

November 8, 2017.....Early Release Dismissal 1:55 p.m.
Cooking Money Due \$3.00 per student

November 9, 2017.....Cooking Lunch Day

November 13, 2017.....I will be out of the classroom to attend an IEPT in the morning. There will be a guest teacher in the morning.

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.

Jobs for this week

Mrs. Jasinski supervising:

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

Mrs. Villasurda supervising:

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

Mrs. Karle-Sloan supervising:

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

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