**Young 5s and Kindergarten**  **November 27, 2017**

**What we’re learning!**

**Phonics**

**Whole class**: This week, we’ll focus on the letter ‘M’ and sort pictures that begin with the /m/ sound. We’ll sort uppercase ‘M’ and lowercase ‘m’ as well. We will also practice identifying, spelling, and reading our sight words.

**Kindergarten**: Students will practice sorting last names by first letter and sorting words by first letter as well.

**Y5:** Students will practice identifying letters by playing “Alphabet Soup” and build sentences with sight words.

**Reading:** Our unit this week will focus on “StellaLuna” by Jean Cannon and learn about bats. We will practice retelling the beginning, middle, and end of the story as well as sequencing the events using pictures. Our vocabulary words are: **swoop, clutch, escape, clamber, and curious.**

**Handwriting:** This week, we’ll practice tracing and writing letters Y and Z and numbers 7 and 8.

**Writing:** This week, we’ll review how words consist of letters and work on writing bigger words using our alphabet charts and Sight Word Wall. We’ll also learn when to capitalize our words.

**Math**

**Kindergarten:** We’ll play number card games in which students practice matching sets to numerals. We’ll practice identifying numbers that are **greater** **than** or **less than** a number as well.

**Y5:** We’ll practice counting and matching numerals to sets by playing a variety of games, such as a beanbag tossing game, building towers based on the number we spin, and finding a “cookie” with a certain number of chips.

**Science**

**Kindergarten:** Students will finish their unit on Pushes and Pulls with our PLTW teacher, Ms. Zeuty, this week.

**Y5:** We’ll continue our unit on Animals in the Neighborhood by learning about birds and how they build nests.

**Social Studies:**

**Kindergarten:** We’ll strengthen our understanding of maps and how to use a key. We’ll also finish creating a map of our classroom together.

 **Young 5s:** We’ll learn the importance of washing our hands to prevent the spread of germs.

**Important Dates**

* **Thanksgiving Break: November 22-24, 2017.**
* **Students return to school on Monday, November 27.**
* **PizzaHut Book It calendars are due Thursday, November 30.**
* **Winter Greenery Orders due Wednesday, December 6.**

**Tips/Strategies**

\*I highly recommend that your child spends at least 10-15 minutes a night reading with you. Ask your child to identify letters and sight words on each page. This will help them become a strong reader.

\*I also suggest that you practice counting 1-50 with your child and asking them to identify letters, words, numbers, and shapes in the world around them.

* If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me: **vansteel@aaps.k12.mi.us.**

**Sight words to review:**

* **it**
* **play**
* **you**

 \*We’ll practice identifying, sorting, reading, and writing these words as well as making them with magnetic letters.

Owl Aboard!

Ms. Van’s Newsletter