**Young 5s and Kindergarten**  **September 16, 2017**

**What we’re learning!**

**Phonics**

**Whole class**: This week, we’ll focus on the letters C and D and sort pictures that begin with the /c/ or /d/sound. We will also practice recognizing and sorting upper and lowercase letters.

**Kindergarten**: Students will practice identifying the beginning sounds in words and words that rhyme.

**Y5:** Students will practice identifying letter sounds and the beginning sounds of words.

**Reading:** We began our unit on “Rainbow Fish” by Marcus Pfister last week, which is a great book about sharing. We practiced making predictions last week. This week, we’ll learn new vocabulary words (**glide, shocked, shimmer, admire, and wise)**, make connections, and answer questions about the story.

**Handwriting**

We’re continuing to practice how to hold a pencil to strengthen our grip. Last week, we traced and wrote A and B and numbers 1-3. This week, we’ll practice tracing and writing C, D and E, numbers 4 and 5, and our names.

**Math**

**Whole class:** The class will focus on matching numbers to quantities and making a class graph about our ages and birthdays.

**Kindergarten:** Students will practice counting 1- 20, recognize mistakes in counting, and represent numbers 1-9 in different ways.

**Y5:** Students will play counting games and practice representing numbers 1-5.

**Science**

**Kindergarten:** We will begin our unit on Growing and Changing this week. Students will create drawings representing what they did yesterday, today and will do tomorrow. We will also learn about how our planet rotates around the Sun, creating day and night.

**Y5:** We will begin our Color unit and we’ll learn about primary colors. Students will use them to create artwork.

**Social Studies:** We’ll continue to learn how to handle bullying this week. **Kinders** will focus on the different roles they have in life (son, brother, etc.). **Young 5s** will focus on how we have similarities and differences that make us unique.

**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 words on each page. Your child can listen to you read, take turns reading with you, or reading to you. This will help them become a strong reader.

\*I also suggest that you practice counting 1-20 with your child and asking them to identify letters and numbers in the world around them.

**Sight words to review:**

* **the**
* **is**

**Important Dates**

* **Picture Day** and **Count Day** is **October 4.**
* I can’t wait to begin another great week with our students! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me: **vansteel@aaps.k12.mi.us.**

Owl Aboard!

Ms. Van’s Newsletter