**Young 5s and Kindergarten**  **September 25, 2017**

**What we’re learning!**

**Phonics**

**Whole class**: This week, we’ll continue to focus on the letter D and sort pictures that begin with the /d/sound. We will also practice matching rhyming words.

**Kindergarten**: Students will practice clapping syllables in words and listening for the first sounds in words.

**Y5:** Students will practice identifying capital letters and matching them to lowercase letters. Students will also begin to learn about syllables as well.

**Reading:** We will begin our unit on “Huggapotamus” by Steve Metzger which is a great book about friendship. We will practice making connections, learn new vocabulary words (**delight, waddling, spotted, skidded, and sigh)**, and identify story elements, such as characters, problem and solution.

**Handwriting**

This week, we’ll practice tracing and writing F, G, and H, numbers 6 and 7, and our names.

**Math**

**Whole class:** The class will practice representing numbers in different ways.

**Kindergarten:** Students will practice counting quickly using pictures of dots, represent numbers in 5 frames, and identify 2-D shapes and their unique qualities.

**Y5:** Students will match pictures of the same quantities and practice identifying 2-D shapes and describe their attributes in a series of games.

**Science**

**Kindergarten:** Last week, students enjoyed listing ways we measure time and learning how one year passes when the Earth rotates around the sun. This week, we will continue our unit by measuring our height and sharing our timelines.

**Y5:** We will begin our Color unit and we’ll learn about secondary and pastel colors. Students will use them to create artwork in class and in their Art special. We will also learn about and celebrate our skin colors.

**Social Studies:** We’ll continue to learn how to handle bullying this week. **Kinders** will describe important events in their past. **Young 5s** will focus on how to use our words to express our emotions.

**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**

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

**Important Dates**

* **Early Release Day is September 27**. Dismissal is at **1:29pm**. Students will still eat **lunch** at school.
* **Picture Day** and **Count Day** is **October 4.**
* If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me: **vansteel@aaps.k12.mi.us.**

Owl Aboard!

Ms. Van’s Newsletter