



Weekly News from Mrs. Mikalsen's Class September 6, 2024



We are off to a great start. It's only been two days, but the children are settling into classroom routines, getting to know one another and discovering that Kindergarten can be so much fun!

I will send home a weekly newsletter (it is also posted on my website) that will highlight some of the special things we did over the past week. Additionally, you can follow our class on Instagram by following: mikalsenfrsd.



Language Development & Reading:

~We've read some great books over the past couple of days. During Shared Reading and Interactive Read Aloud we have started to look at nursery rhymes and songs. With these we are looking for rhyming words, learning about authors and illustrators and enjoying the playful language of these time honored texts. Amongst our favorites:

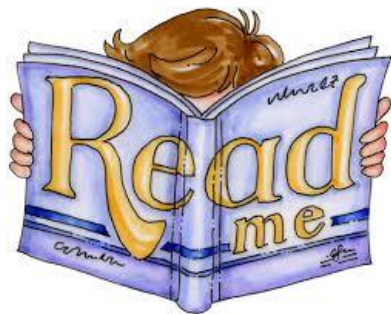
The Eensy Weensy Spider

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

Baa Baa Black Sheep

~We also enjoyed the books: If You Take a Mouse to School, If You Give a Mouse a Cookie & Rufus Goes to School – after which we talked about our Hopes & Dreams for Kindergarten.

~We began our Foundations Literacy Program. We learned how to echo, about our writing lines, practiced writing on our dry erase boards.



Upcoming Events and Reminders

Wednesday 9/11

PTO Meeting, 7PM

Friday 9/13:

PTO Ice Cream Social, 6:15

Thursday, 9/19:

Back-to-School Night



Birthdays

9/5 Justin



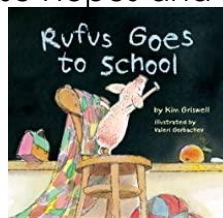
Math:

- ~We are already enjoying Math time.
- ~We are recognizing and predicting shape patterns
- ~We are counting, in a variety of ways, the days we've been in school
- ~We are defining and classifying objects by attributes.
- ~We are exploring math manipulatives.



Social Studies/Science:

- ~We are playing games during morning meeting to help us learn each other's names and little more about each other.
- ~We began our first Social Studies Unit "Navigating School." We read the book School's First Day of School, and are thinking of ways that we can make school a great place for everyone.
- ~We talked about and created a class list of our Hopes and Dreams for what we would like to accomplish this year. We look forward to learning many things and having fun this year. Next week we will craft our classroom rules together so that we can obtain these Hopes and Dreams.



Important Reminders/Suggestions

1. Please send a snack in with your child daily. It is really helpful to put their snack in a separate pouch or bag and to let your child know where they can find it in their backpack. Ideally, I should not be in their lunchbox as we don't always have our lunchboxes back in the classroom by snack time.
2. If your child wants to drink water from their water bottle at lunch time, you might want to consider packing 2 water bottles – one in their lunchbox and one in their backpack.



Information from the PTO

1. Become a PTO member through Membership Toolkit! This is their online school directory and their main communication hub, which also includes volunteer opportunities, school store and other purchases. Use this link to access the program.

<https://barleysheafpto.membershiptoolkit.com>

You can pay for your yearly directory access and PTO membership (\$13) directly on the site.

2. Homeroom Parents Request

Homeroom parents support teachers and schedule parent volunteers for activities such as class parties, events, and special grade-level projects. One to two homeroom parents will be selected for each classroom. Please be aware that you must be able to fulfill the following requirements:

- Be an active volunteer and paying PTO member (\$13 per year dues, payable through Membership Toolkit)
- Meet with the classroom teacher and organize parties and snacks at the teacher's discretion (following the district Wellness Policy)
- Follow the bylaws of the PTO

If you are able to perform all of the above duties and would like to be a homeroom parent, please submit your request to the PTO. Forms were sent home in the PTO packet and are in Virtual Backpack. Forms are due on 9/13/2024.