

Kindergarten January Newsletter

Themes for the month: New Year's, Winter, Penguins, Ezra Jack Keats & Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Bible Verse: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you." -Ezekiel 11:19

Reading: This month we will review and learn more super reading powers: pointer, picture, snap word, partner and sound powers. We will start weekly guided reading groups. We will sit in small groups, reading & discussing a book together. At this time, we will incorporate different reading strategies and encourage more risk taking with our reading. We will also study Ezra Jack Keats this month. We will first learn some history about this talented author and learn what has inspired him to write such great books. We will read many of his stories and accompany them with creative writing activities. We will discuss how authors take personal experiences in their lives and apply them to their stories. We will also talk about story elements (character, setting, plot) and how it applies to our stories.

Word Study: We will continue with our sight words as well as color, number and thematic words. We have now started to write our own sentences with sight words we already know. This month, we will talk about digraphs (sh, ch, wh and th words.) In our class, they are known as the "H" brothers. Ask your kiddo all about them!

Writing: We are moving along nicely with our story writing. We are focusing on zooming in on a particular event and stretching the details across several pages. We are trying our best to stretch out the words...remembering that the sounds we hear are the sounds we write. This month we will talk about the importance of adding details to engage the reader; we will also learn how to "edit" our work.

Math: We will start off the month learning the 30's. We will be counting, writing and comparing groups up to 10. We will also practice how to count by 5's and tally!

Handwriting: We will focus on lower case letters. We will work on our names: the first letter is to be capitalized, followed by the rest of the letters in lowercase form.

Science: This month we will learn about penguins and other cold weather animals. We will draw upon the facts we already know and then find out some more information about them.

Social Studies: This month we will talk about the season of winter and all of the fun things we like to do during this time. We will start the month off by talking about our New Year's resolutions. We will discuss what it means to make a "promise." We will also talk about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We will learn some facts about this important man's life and why he was such an honorary figure in history.

Dates to Remember...

Monday, January 8...Music class

Monday, January 15...School is closed in observance of Dr. MLK, Jr.

Friday, January 26...Kindergarten Winter STEAM Day

Monday, January 29...Art class: dress for mess!