

Friday, March 12, 2010

Dear Parents:

We have finished the first week of our thematic unit, On Our Way: Land, Air and Water Transportation. We studied about trucks and trains. Our Read Aloud book was Wheels All Around and our Kinder Friends Book was Around The Town. The Big and Little book was I Can Read Signs. The Shared Story was The Wheels On The Bus. The Science Link book was Cool Wheels! The Alphafriend this week is Dudley Duck who is teaching the children all about the letter "Dd".

We will conclude our Transportation Unit with an event called "Truck Day." On the morning of Friday, March 26, we hope to have several trucks visit Pine Hill School (If it is not raining). The students will go to the parking lot and listen to the truck drivers talk: how they work and what they are used for. If you know of someone who might be able to bring a truck to school on Fri., March 26 from 8:45 until about 9:45, please have them contact me as soon as possible.

In math we have been working on addition, subtraction, measurement, reading number words, and money. The children have been working to learn that pennies are worth one cent and nickels are worth five cents. You can support your child's learning by giving them opportunities to play with coins at home. A fun family activity would be setting up a little "store" where your child can purchase items with coins.

Conferences are scheduled for next week. A note came home this week with a scheduled time. Please sign to confirm the time and return the note to school as soon as possible. If you are unable to attend at the scheduled time, please call the school office to schedule a new time.

Make reading a part of every day:

- Share conversations with your child over meal times and other times you are together. Children learn words more easily when they hear them spoken often. Introduce new and interesting words at every opportunity.
- Read together every day. Spend time talking about stories, pictures, & words.
- Point out the letter-sound relationships your child is learning on labels, boxes, newspapers, magazines and signs.
- Be your child's best advocate. Keep informed about your child's progress in reading and ask the teacher about ways you can help.
- Be a reader and a writer. Children learn habits from the people around them.
- Visit the library often. Story times, computers, homework help, and other exciting activities await the entire family.