

Friday, December 21, 2007

Dear Parents:

Our letter of the week was the letter I. We heard the new Alphafriend Iggy Iguana make the short I sound. We had two Barbara Saul books this week; My Christmas Counting Book and My Christmas Alphabet Book. In our Handwriting Without Tears program, we have finished learning how to write all of the capital letters and have begun to write the lower case letters. The children got to meet the Magic C Bunny this week that will be helping them to write some of the little letters. We also did another chapter from our new science books. We learned about water and how water changes. Your child should know the new vocabulary words; water, melt, freeze and ground. You might have some fun with your child freezing water and then watching how long it takes to melt.

The children should know most of their alphabet letter names, shapes and sounds. During Winter Break, it is important that the students continue to practice their letter skills daily. Many times, children lose some of their skills when they are away from school, so daily practice is vital to retain what they have learned so far this year.

I will also be asking that you keep reading to and with your child during Winter Break and that you document this reading by filling out the Reading Logs. I am sending home three (3) reading logs with this note. When we resume school on Monday, January 7, your child should turn in two (2) of the reading logs; one for each week of vacation. They will turn in the third one on Friday, January 11 for the first week back.

Starting in January we will begin dismissing kindergarten classes at the same time as the students in grades 1-3. So, on Monday, January 7, instead of picking up your child at 1:20 P.M., you will pick him/her up at 2:20 PM. BUT, please remember that every Wednesday is a minimum day. Previously, that did not impact the kindergarten classes but starting in January, kindergarten students will be dismissed at 1:30 along with all the other children in the entire school. **Please make a note on your calendar that every Wednesday is a minimum day with early dismissal.**

When we return in January, the next thematic unit will be Jambo: Hello Kenya! We will be studying about the country of Kenya in Africa. If you have been to Africa or know someone who has been there, please see if they would be willing to share their experiences with our kindergarten students.