

# Kindergarten News

November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008

Dear parents,

Our CELEBRATIONS Social Studies unit on Thanksgiving has been filled with many fun, hands-on math, literacy, and science activities:

- Pattern block turkeys
- *A Big Fat Turkey*...poem (word search and acting out)
- Rotten Jack Observations (life cycle of a pumpkin: decomposition)
- *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything* storyboard and retelling; sequencing events; acting out.
- November Calendars (patterns and number formation)
- Turkey hand prints/poem gift for parents
- Measuring length/height of fall vegetables with unifix cubes.
- Read alouds on the first Thanksgiving; comparing and contrasting.
- Making a class book about *Stone Soup*
- Making individual books of *Stone Soup* and *Yuck Soup*

## Upcoming activities:

- Vegetable patterns
- Thanksgiving Map (instructional board)
- *Turkey's Gift to Us* listening center
- *Stone Soup*: reading various versions of this folktale and comparing the texts in a Venn Diagram
- Turkey hats
- Seed/bean mosaics
- Corn experiment (Squanto)
- Creating 'Stone Soup' for our feast (stone and all)
- Measuring, mixing and making Cornbread Muffins
- Making home-made butter...shake, shake, shake
- Writing about what we are thankful for...

## Reminders:

- There is **NO SCHOOL** next week (November 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>)! We will see you on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Don't forget to return your **library book** after the Thanksgiving break.
- The weather is getting colder!!!!!! **Please send your child to school dressed for the weather.** They have a short morning and afternoon recess and a longer lunch recess. Please make sure your children have warm coats, hats, gloves/mittens and appropriate shoes. Thank you for your help. We want our kiddos to stay warm and healthy!!!!
- Thanksgiving **Homework:** Please have your child work on their Thanksgiving *I See* booklet. They need to practice writing the sentences in their best handwriting. Focusing on letter formation and spacing. Thanks for you support.
- After the Thanksgiving break, our kindergarten classes will continue reading various versions of a favorite folktale that focuses on sharing and working together: ***Stone Soup***. We will send a note home on Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> asking each child to bring in a special ingredient for our Stone Soup feast. The children will be making "Stone Soup", Thumbkin pumpkin pies and mini cornbread muffins. It will be a wonderful celebration filled with the magic ingredients: sharing and friendship! (and of course: the stone)

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Thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out the Thanksgiving 'home work' sheet. It will be wonderful sharing each child's traditions and stories about thanksgiving when they return. We hope you all have a happy Thanksgiving with friends and family! We will see you in a week. Take care!

Kristen, Joni and Lori



**\*We are thankful for our wonderful Kindergartners!!!!**