

Dear Parents,

Well we made it through our first few days of school! Our folders are going to work out nicely with our communications from school to home. I look in the folders first thing each morning to see if I have any messages from home and I can see that you are doing the same thing each night. Therefore these folders must be sent back to school **Every Day.**

Each afternoon I have provided the children a snack to go along with their milk. They seem to enjoy this very much. I am wondering if you would provide a snack to go along with their milk in the afternoon. In your parent handbook on page 8 it lists the kinds of snacks that would be appropriate to bring to school. I am going to send home a September calendar that will let you know when it is your turn to bring a snack, if you want to provide one for the children. It will also have their birthday listed so they can bring a birthday treat. **You do not have to provide a snack if you don't want too.**

Animated Literacy - I will also be sending home a homework calendar each month that is designed to keep you informed of the major concepts being introduced in our Animated Literacy Program. This is a phonics program that will help us learn how to read. This way you can reinforce each of these concepts at home. The first calendar will come home in about two weeks. **Have your child do at least 10 of the activities.** When you are finished with the calendar send it back to school. At the end of the year the children who have returned all of their calendars will be recognized at our Kindergarten Graduation. We have met Polly Panda who helps us with our "p sound", Uncle Upton helps us with our "short u sound", Dr. Ollie Ostrich helps us with our "short o sound", Mimi Mermaid helps us with our "m sound" With these sounds we have worked on learning the following words: **pup and pop.**

Reading - Our reading program this year is from the McGraw Hill publishing company. The Kindergarten reading program is divided up into six units. Our first unit is called "My World." The first story we looked at was called **Max's ABC Day.** We learned about a typical school day and evening activities with Max. It took us through the alphabet with Max, first getting an **A**pple to put in his lunch, then getting on the **B**us, and finally taking his **Z**ebra to bed with him. At the same time we looked at a book called **Big Book of Phonics, Rhymes, and Poems.** In this book we sung the ***ABC Song***. Most of the children can sing the ***ABC Song*** but a few children have trouble knowing the name of a letter when we just pick a letter at random. Also we read a poem called ***The Monkey's ABC's.*** The children really enjoyed this poem. Each week I read a story from my teacher's book. This week's story was called ***The Squeaky Old Bed.*** To go along with our story we have a big book called **Real Life Reading Book.** When we look at this book we discuss real life issues that go along with the story we just read in my teacher's book. We also met our first reading word. It is the high-frequency word "the". The children have a little book that they are bringing home today called ***The House.*** **Please have your child read this story to you and as many other people as they can over the weekend. Everyone who listens to them read their story needs to sign their name on the story. Your child needs to bring this story back to school on Monday to read to**

me again. Each week we will have a little paper story to read at home over the weekend and bring back to school on Mondays. There are 30 stories altogether. Again at the end of the year those children who have returned all 30 stories will be recognized at our Kindergarten Graduation.

Math – In math we have been doing a “*Little Farm Math Book.*” We colored one farmer and practiced tracing the number one and writing the word one. Next we colored two horses and traced and wrote the number two. We will continue all the way to 10. We are practicing recognizing our numbers from one to ten. Also we are practicing looking at a number and knowing how many circles to draw to go with that number. This is something we could practice on at home.

Writing – I’m sending home a page that shows how we make each letter in Kindergarten. If you are helping your child at home practice their name, please use this page to help your child form their letters. That way we are both doing this the same.

We would like to get to know each other a little better. I am sending home pages for you to fill out information about your child. We will feature a different student on our “Student of the week” bulletin board for two weeks at a time. Please return the diary pages to school by **Friday, September 5th**. I’ll send home a note to let you know when it is your child’s turn to be our “Student of the Week”. When you receive this note please send around **10 to 15 family photographs to school.** The photographs will be returned to you after they have been on our bulletin board. Thank you for all your help!

Have a nice weekend!

Mrs. Hall