

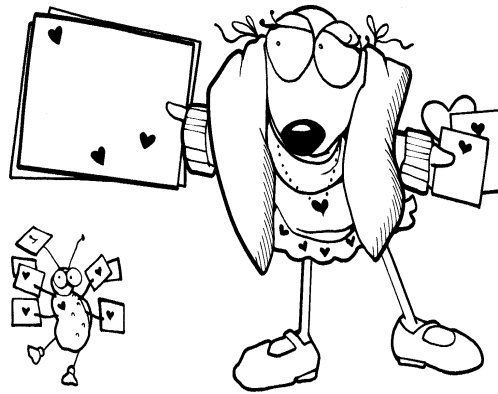


Valentine's Day Party

Our Valentine's Day party will be on Friday, February 13th. The children should bring 21 valentines to which they have only signed their name. **Please do not put classmates names on the outside of the envelopes.** This is a great opportunity for your child to have extra practice in correctly writing their name. Children may

start bringing in their Valentine Cards any-time. For a reminder of who's helping with party supplies, please

see the sign up sheet later in this newsletter or posted on the website.



Have your child only sign their own name to each valentine's day card. Please do NOT write classmates names on the outside of the cards.

Homework

I would like to thank all of you for doing such a nice job in establishing homework routines with your children. The routines you establish now are very important and can help ensure future school successes. You are laying the foundation for positive and productive homework routines. Please continue to assist and encourage

your child to complete their weekly homework and to timely return their folders every Day #2 and Day #7. (The following day the children attend Library and library books are also due.) The children will be rewarded for their completed homework. If they had completed all of the homework for a month they received a prize. I'm

very excited to tell you that almost all 21 children had completed all the homework for every month thus far. That is a tribute to both you and your children. I encourage you to persist with what you have started and thank you for all that you continue to do!

Thank you

Mrs. Snyder
Kindergarten
Classroom

Barrie School

February 2015

Special points of interest:

- ☺ 100 Days of School Celebration on Feb 9
- ☺ Valentine's Day party on Feb 13
- ☺ Parent Teacher Conferences Feb 5 & 10
- ☺ Please do not write names on the outside of valentines

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Many things LOST... Few things claimed

One night I was talking to parents in the hall. We happened to be standing in front of the tables that hold the lost and found items put out especially for Parent Teacher Conferences. We were casually commenting on



Stop by the lost and found tables located in front of the office during Conferences.

the piles of lost items when a mitten belonging to their child was discovered. Anytime you are around school please stop and check out the lost and found. A stop by may turn up an item or two you may not even know your child is missing. It is

worth it for every parent to stop and take a look.

Thank you for sending in all of the box tops. Keep asking friends and relatives to help collect box tops.

Every one adds up!



BOOK IT Reading Program

If you are receiving this newsletter electronically, you may access the monthly reading goal on the classroom website. The link to the website is at the end of this section. You may fill it out and return it to me through email or print a hard copy. Children who are reading books at home to meet their goal will continue to get a trip to the treasure chest in the library

and will receive a Pizza Hut certificate. If you are having difficulty finding time or books that enable your child to meet their goal, please talk to me. In all four of the first months of the program - Sep-

"To date, 100% of the students have met their reading goal each month. Keep it up!"

tember, October, November, and December- 100% of the students in our class have met their reading goal.

<http://teachersites.schoolworld.com/webpages/PSnyder>



Laundry Tip

We have been using dry erase boards and markers more and more in the classroom. The children love them! Unfortunately, your child may come home with some marker on their body and/or clothing

like the carpet at school. The marks on children are unintentional as they are learning how to uncap and hold the markers when a friend is close by. If you have some stains that won't come out of

clothes, hairspray (the cheap aerosol stuff) has been a good laundry booster for me.



Rainbow Rules

In our Kindergarten classroom we work very hard to establish a fun and safe learning environment. To further encourage the children, as well as, to sustain their engagement and excitement I have added another component for second semester. All of the children will have a chance to take home a "Rainbow Backpack." Children will be recognized for positive behaviors. Children may be recognized for doing something good or simple following the rules of our classroom and school. (The "rainbow" theme is a continuation of our Martin Luther King, Jr unit focusing on peaceful cooperation.) The children are learn-

ing the importance of following classroom rules so that we can all learn and we can all have fun while doing it. There is no limit to how many times a child may be recognized, although every effort will be made to encourage all children. There are eleven different rainbow backpacks, each with a different theme (Scooby, Care Bear, Arthur, Bob the Builder, Franklin, Dora, Strawberry Shortcake, Horses, Ocean Animals, Zoo Animals,

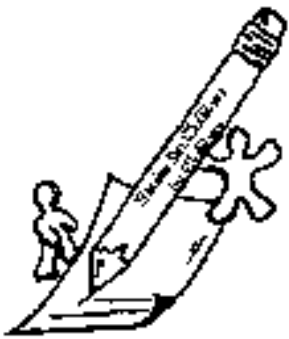
and Dinosaurs.) The contents of the backpacks have a combination of activities. Some of the activities are just-for-fun and snuggly, and others are more educational. Children have free choice of



We work very hard to establish a fun and safe learning environment.

which backpack they prefer and may take home the same backpack more than one time. When your child brings home a Rainbow Backpack, please take a minute to look over the contents and any special instructions so that it may be returned ready for the next child to use.

Name Writing



We have really been focusing on correct letter formation

and word spacing. Think back to the beginning of the year. Oh my, how they have all grown! Watch this semester

for your child to write both their first **and** their last name more frequently. We will be expecting all of the children to use correct letter formation in their name writing. This means capital for the first letter and lowercase for the rest. It means always starting at the top. It also means getting letters like those lowercase "y's" below

the line and letters like those "l's" to start up tall. (We use the verbiage "tall" "small" and "fall" to describe both where the letter fits on the line and its size.)

"Watch this semester for your child to write their **first** and their **last** name more frequently."

Mrs. Snyder
Kindergarten
Classroom

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Dates to Remember

Monday, February 2

Thursday & Tuesday

Feb 5 & 10

Friday, February 6

Monday, February 9

Friday, February 13

Friday, February 20

Monday, February 23

Groundhogs Day

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

& PTO BOOK FAIR all week

BARRIE BRONCO SPIRIT DAY

& PTO Superhero Themed Dance 6-7:30

100 Days In School Celebration

VALENTINES PARTY

Early Dismissal (11:50am) NO LUNCH

Kindergartners attend the play "Curious George" at the Irvin Young Auditorium in Whitewater



Something to Ponder

Taken from Iowa Literacy Link Volume 1 Number 8, April 2007

Children who have been read to for 30 minutes a day from birth through age five receive over 900 hours of brain food. Children who have been read to for 30 minutes a week from birth through age five receive 130 hours of brain food, which is great, but a 770 hour deficit when compared to the first group. Children who are read to less than 30 minutes weekly enter kindergarten with less than 60 hours of the same brain food. Fewer nursery rhymes, fairy tales, stories, etc. Even the most gifted teacher cannot bridge the gap that exists between the cognitively undernourished and the young minds which have been saturated with literacy.

The good news is that reading to your child is powerful, no matter what age they are. Experts recommend that parents read to their children through high school. It is never too late to read to your child, no matter what age they are. So grab the comics, the newspaper, or a really great novel, curl up on the couch and read!

MORE ABOUT BOOKS... you may have noticed that the Kindergartners have started checking out two books from the Library. One is a free choice and the other is one they should be able to read to you.