

News from Mrs. Ficchi

December 21, 2011



Important Dates:

December 23 - January 2 Winter Break
January 16 No School
January 20 School Flood make-up day
January 25 1:15 Early dismissal
January 28 PTO Pancake Breakfast
January 31 Spring Pictures

Word Wall: am a an and can for go he have I is like little my play see said the to we will

When we return to school in January, we will be adding *an me she with*. Please continue to practice these words at home with your child. The children should be able to spell and read all word wall words.

Weather: Please send hats and gloves as the weather gets colder. We will be going outside for recess when the weather and our schedule permit. Some children are still not able to close their winter coats. Tying shoes is another important self-care skill for children to master at this age. Please practice these skills with your child.

Math: In this chapter, we will learn how to use fingers to count, as well as the concept of how many more. Some of the skills your child will practice are:

- Using fingers to add
- Comparing sets to find how many more

Using fingers to add is a fundamental skill that your child will use to develop additions skills later in this program. Comparing sets will also enhance his or her skill in matching one-to-one, which will help later when dealing with subtraction.

Letter Sounds: We have been adding medial (middle) sounds in words. The children are practicing stretching out words so we hear more sounds when writing.

Reading: Starting in January, the children are now bringing home books to read to you. These are books that we have worked on in small groups in the classroom. The students may have the books for a few days, but please make sure all books are in his/her folder each day so they can also be read at school.

Writing: Please continue to talk with your child at home about their favorite things or what they did in school. The better we are at telling stories and having conversations, the better writers we become. When talking with your child ask for specific details. We are now asking the children to write stories with multiple sentences. We are calling our stories Oreos stories. The first sentence we call the *topic sentence*. All remaining sentences must pertain to the topic; we call these the *stuffing* of the stories.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Mrs. Ficchi