

 September 09, 2019

Greetings Senior Kindergarten Parents and Friends,

As we move into our 3rd full week of kindergarten, students are beginning to become acclimated to our daily routines. We have already accomplished a lot and continue to grow as a class. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me.

**Highlights of our Week:**

**Reading:** This week will be our 3rd and final week of the Start Smart introduction in our reading curriculum. We have already learned 2 high frequency words (I & can) and have been reading small sentences in the paper mini readers that will come home weekly. A good reading practice would be to have your child read those readers to you and other family members. The more they practice the words we are learning at school the more their frequency will grow.

**Math:**  This week in math we will be completing the 1st topic in our math curriculum. This unit provided students with an understanding of math terms like “Whole and Parts” and helped them understand the concept of 0 as a value. These early math lessons help build important foundations for future math applications. At the end of each math topic there is an assessment. We will be working on that assessment at the end of the week and possibly into next week, before moving on to topic 2.

**Social Studies:** This week we will learn about locations. We will talk about places we go in our communities and learn about the state we live in and how to find the United States on a map. We will also begin working on learning our addresses.

**Science:** We are learning about living and non-living things. If you have not sent back the science contract from last week’s Tuesday folder, please return it this week.

**Religion:** This week we will continue to read about days 4 and 5 of creation.

**Other Items:**

* Please make sure you are checking the labels on things you are sending in for snacks and lunches. Over the last few days Mrs. Brayton and I have seen several snack and lunch items come to school that contain nuts. When we see these items, we are asking the children to put them back into lunch boxes and take them home due to our “Nut Free” environment.
* If you have not done so yet, please send a complete change of clothing (including socks and underwear) for your student to keep in his or her locker.
* For safety reasons students not wearing socks and sneakers cannot play on the playground equipment. If possible please just send your child to school in socks and sneakers during the warm weather.
* I am sure you have noticed that our classroom has an abundance of toys. **Students should** **not bring personal toys to school**, unless they are the “Star of the Week”. You should have received information about Star of the Week in the folders I gave you on curriculum night.
* Children can come into the classroom starting at 8:00. We have free play from 8:00-8:30. This is an important part of the day for children, and they really need that time to get their day started. Please have your student in class no later than 8:15. We will start reading groups in a few weeks in the morning, and it is hard for children to come in during the middle of a reading session. Tardiness can cause them to miss out on a lot of our reading activities for that day.
* Two weeks ago, we started using the iPads for Lexia. This activity requires headphones. If you have not supplied headphones, please make sure your child brings them in ASAP.
* If you know the days your child will be staying for extended care, please email that information to me.
* Hearing tests are mandated in Illinois. At some point this month (I will let you know when I have the exact date), our school nurse will be testing every child’s hearing. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please let me know.
* In your curriculum night folders, there was a form from Highlights magazine. Even if you are not ordering, please sign it and return it to me. Our class gets the magazine and other things (like stickers and puzzles books) free when I return the forms. Thanks in Advance.
* Picture Day is on Tuesday, if you are planning to purchase pictures please return the order form envelop to me ASAP.
* ***Walk with Grace,*** Grace Lutheran School’s annual walk-a-thon fundraiser is **Friday, October 4th**. The event is just **FOUR WEEKS AWAY** making it the perfect time to sign up for Pledgestar and start raising money for our school! This is a very fun day for the students and teachers, but as with any event – we need help! Please click on the link below to see the many ways you can support the event and our school.

 Pledgestar: [http://pledgestar.com/grace](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001cnplwJfOvjmRcQWEKqBTykQiZs5n67gsrt3ZRiWnBH1y21kTpl__WNH_pfvBnOap1dDDDZZQXUdTHOhIxQI2vdgAm0jxkMbZ0dyLN-qvbrIQXH_bNJMxdPmmq-2bAWFqGSpN4A-XxeZLxZG1glk-Og==&c=Tatb2_BEyFWyaCyM2P8025dmuJukdufDP-BK4cQ1uaKaYwU7_SK_kw==&ch=KB-Oi2wufpRTk3VvkO0MjR9GMt1dlPLZ4BsfBFfXywk4U1SbxOI9zw==)

 Volunteer: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B4CA8AC22A5FC1-walk](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001cnplwJfOvjmRcQWEKqBTykQiZs5n67gsrt3ZRiWnBH1y21kTpl__WNH_pfvBnOaps8Xuj_Ek-Tp9HIlLYTiMOIs6sWSRGlk3CNWOsAY9uxZ5KFnsedRp3VFP4aq59O-U4JjtLy6r0JWRR6PIjX7SH7ojnqpG7weOTSRLpHQtYBH74THY-nlTj9YgIyCJ2JEh&c=Tatb2_BEyFWyaCyM2P8025dmuJukdufDP-BK4cQ1uaKaYwU7_SK_kw==&ch=KB-Oi2wufpRTk3VvkO0MjR9GMt1dlPLZ4BsfBFfXywk4U1SbxOI9zw==)

 In conjunction with the walkathon, our students will be doing a service project for Ronald McDonald House Charities. 10% of donations given to the walkathon will be earmarked for this organization.

 If you have any questions, please contact Brian Schultz at bschultz@graceriverforest.org

In Him Who Loves Us All

Jackie Johnson-Lindmark

**Important Dates:**

09/10-Picture Day

09/13-Hot Lunch

09/27-Hot Lunch