

 September 23, 2019

Greetings Senior Kindergarten Parents and Friends,

I hope everyone had a great weekend.

**Highlights of our Week:**

**Reading:** Our small reading groups are going great, and students are getting into the routine of our daily reading period. The reading rotation includes handwriting, phonics, phonemic awareness and writing activities, in addition to actual story reading. Each week we will also learn a new High Frequency word. These are words that do not follow commonly taught phonics rules and cannot be sounded out. We will review words (from prior weeks) each week, in addition to our new word. The words we have covered so far are” **I, can & the**” our word this week will be “**we**”. Please practice reading and writing these words at home with your child. We also have a weekly letter throughout the week. We work on the sound the letter makes and how to write the letter both upper and lower case. Last week we worked on the letter /m/, this week our letter is /a/. This week I will also introduce the concept of nouns.

**Math:** This week we are finishing topic 2. Our lessons this week will focus on comparing groups to 5 by counting and using problem solving strategies to understand the concepts of greater than, less than and equal to. We will review the lessons for this unit later in the week and do the end of unit assessment on Friday.

**Social Studies:** This week our lesson will focus on responsibility, and we have things at home, at school and in our communities that we are responsible for. Our character development discussion this week is on kindness. There will be a character letter in this week’s Tuesday folder. We will also have a cross-over lesson with science about apples.

**Science:** In science this week we are making applesauce, during this lesson we will discuss the differences in color, taste and size of the apples. We will also talk about the how sugar acts like a magnet by pulling water into the apple’s cell membranes. This is the process known as osmosis. We will also learn about Johnny Appleseed whose birthday is September 26th.

**Religion:** This week we will learn about Adam and Eve.

**Other Items:**

* Just another reminder to please check the labels of food that are coming to school. Mrs. Brayton and I are still seeing food with nut products coming in for snacks and lunches. Our class is completely nut free, that includes peanuts and tree nuts.
* 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.
* Please make sure you send your student to school with an apple by Tuesday 09/24. We are making our applesauce and having apple tasting on Wednesday and will eat our yummy homemade applesauce on Thursday. Our applesauce will probably be eaten as an extra afternoon snack on Thursday because we will be celebrating a Birthday during morning snack, so please send your child with their regular snack just in case (smile).
* Lexia is a wonderful supplement to the reading we do at school, but it can also be very frustrating to students. Lexia is designed to be student driven and work at a child’s individual pace, but some of the activities cover areas that are unfamiliar to some of the students. Because we utilize Lexia at school a few times a week, I am going to recommend that at this point, students only use it twice a week at home, for a maximum of 10 minutes for each session. We can increase these times as the year progresses, and students become more comfortable with reading activities. If your child comes to an area that is frustrating, try to guide them through the activity and then try another reading area. **Lexia at home is optional.**
* Over the last few weeks we’ve had several incidents of touching, pulling and not respecting each other’s personal space. We have had several conversations in class about kindness and respect. Please reiterate these discussions at home. I encourage communication in our classroom and discourage any forms of violence. Our class as well as the school has a 0% tolerance for bullying or any physical interactions. Any students who are consistently being intentionally physical with others will be sent up to talk to Mr. Koehne.
* Scholastic books has hundreds of books available for $1.00 this month. It is a great way to encourage the love of reading in your student and with every order from you our class gets new books for us to enjoy in class. If you can, please consider ordering. On-line ordering information can be found on the packets you received last week in Tuesday folders. All classroom orders are in the on-line format.
* If you know the days your child will be staying for extended care, please email that information to me.
* ***Walk with Grace,*** Grace Lutheran School’s annual walk-a-thon fundraiser is **Friday, October 4th**. The event is just 2 **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:**

09/25- Applesauce Day

09/27-Hot Lunch

10/4- Walk-a-thon (11:30 Dismissal)

10/9- Pancake Day (More information to come)

10/10- Parent Teacher Conference (11:30 Dismissal)

10/11- No School Teacher Development Day

10/14- No School Fall Break