



Dear Room 602 Families,

It is hard to believe, but we are almost half way through kindergarten! Time flies when I'm enjoying the kids so much! Two letters are being sent home this week. Please be on the lookout for:

- First letter explains the progress children are making and what skills should be practiced at home. The gap between children who practice skills at home compared to those who work hard only at school typically begins to widen at this point. I thank you in advance for working with me to support the academic growth of your child!
- Second letter explains how we will try to get outside for play on Thursdays. With that, the letter gives a detailed explanation regarding packing snow gear, boots, slippers and more.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

In reading we will read See How We Grow, a story about twins. The story shows how much the babies change in their first few years. Our comprehension skill to focus on will be "cause and effect" and we will learn that as one thing happens, it can cause another thing to happen. In phonics we will focus on the letters Dd and Kk and the sounds they make. We will introduce new sight words *see* and *look*.

In math we are still focusing on the Cuisenaire Rods and how two rods put together can make a sum that equals a larger rod. For example, the red rod (2) and the black rod (7) make the same size as the blue rod (9). This is the beginning of  $2 + 7 = 9$ .

Some students still struggle to recognize numbers up to 20. Please help your child learn to recognize all of these numbers in any order. Also, please continue to play with the numberless playing cards so your child can easily recognize the visual clusters for cards 1 through 10.

Last, we are practicing orally counting forward to 50, to 100 by tens, and backwards from 20.

## REMINDERS

Please remember that I add new stories to the Pearson website weekly so your child can practice and/or "show off" their reading skills to you! They are making great progress! Send me a note if you forget your username and/or password.

I can always be reached by phone at 595-1570 extension 1438 or by email at [ablackwell@sau81.org](mailto:ablackwell@sau81.org)

Children must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. Upon return, please send in a note explaining the illness so your child's absence can be excused.

## THANK YOU!

Thank you very much for the donations for our classroom! **Clorox wipes are still greatly appreciated so we can continue to keep all surfaces clean and germ free!**

Thanks for continuing to support your child's education. A favorite reading quote of mine: "*Children are made readers on the laps of their parents.*"

— Emilie Buchwald



Have a great week!

Mrs. Blackwell  
Mrs. Bistany

