



Ms. Conaway's

Kindergarten Times

Issue 2

October 2011

**Happy
Halloween!**

Meet the Superkids!

We are having a great time with the Superkids! The students like the character songs we watch on the Superkids website and listen to on cd, finding the letter in other activities, and listening for the sound we are working. The kids are always eager to meet the next character. What a great way to learn to read! We have met Cass who loves to cook, Oswald who likes odd animals and are about to meet Golly a dog who loves different smells. Skills we are working on are: first, second and last letter sounds in words, forming letters using ice cream lines, vocabulary, capital letters for names, and reading/speaking with expression. We have worked in our journals too.

Science/Social Studies

October is a very busy month for us! The first week we'll spend some time on a unit about the seasons with a focus on fall. We will learn about different types of weather in each season, appropriate clothing, and what plants and animals do in each season. We are starting to see some signs of fall outside and will talk about these changes. We will talk about pumpkins and how they grow. Our trip to Treinen Farm is part of this unit. We will take a walking trip to Village Park to look for signs of fall too.

The second week is Fire Safety week. The Waunakee Fire Department will come to our school to teach us about fire safety. We will tour the Waunakee Fire Department on the afternoon of Oct. 13. We will complete a booklet, read books about fire safety, stop, drop, and roll, and fire escape plans..

The final major unit in October is on Halloween. In kindergarten, we focus on the scientific aspect of this holiday. We study bats through many books and projects. One book read is about a bat named Stellaluna by Janell Cannon. We talk about this animal being nocturnal too. We learn about many different kinds of spiders and its body parts as well as our own skeleton. Many other fun activities are planned that work on different academic skills using the Halloween theme.

Support at Home

- Review letters being worked on at school with identifying letter and sound. We have worked on C O G next up A, D,
- Writing letters already worked on by referring to guide sent home
- Practice Sign of the Cross

Religion

We continue to learn about God's creation with a focus on all kinds of animals. We will watch the Beginner Bible video about Creation. This goes along with the Bible we use in class. We will continue to read from the Old Testament until Christmas. Also, October is the month of Mary. We will be learning about her as the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of us all. We will be talking about the Rosary and the special prayer we say to Mary. Finally, we will learn to celebrate God and Jesus' love for us all year.

Math

We are finishing a chapter on sorting by different means ie shapes, size, color, kind. A unit on numbers is next. We will learn to count, read and write each of the numbers 0-5. We will also talk about ordinal number names and figuring out their position using lots of different items. Look for homework to go along with this chapter. We will start the next chapter at the very end of the month. This will include learning to compare sets of items and work on graphs. We will have daily graph questions that will involve different ways of gathering the data and analyze the data through questions.



October Kindergarten Notes

Tuesday, October 11 Treinen Farm Field Trip

We will go on a fieldtrip to Treinen Farm on Tuesday, October 11. We will be doing a lot of fun activities at their farm like a horse drawn hayride to the pumpkin patch, picking a pumpkin, observing animals, and going through an age appropriate corn maze. So the morning goes as well as possible, please dress your child appropriately for the weather. We will be outside all morning! Also, dress your child in their "grubby" clothes and old shoes or boots. We will possibly be picking pumpkins in a possibly muddy patch. Please bring an extra pair of shoes to change into at school. If you volunteer to chaperone for this field trip, please arrive at 7:50. The rule for the students is they have to be able to carry his/her own pumpkin out of the patch. Have fun!

Thursday, October 13 Fire Station Field Trip

We will go on a walking field trip in the afternoon to the Waunakee Fire Station for Fire Safety Awareness Week. If you are interested in the tour, you are welcome to come along. We will be leaving at 12:15 and return at 1:15. Please let me know if you'll be coming along!

Winter Attire

Winter weather is on its way and I am guessing you will need to purchase a few items for your child to wear. I thought I would give you a few things to think about before you go shopping. Please note your child will need to be able to completely dress himself/herself in winter attire alone or with very little help. **Start practicing tying, zipping, etc.** Mittens should go on last not first so he/she is still able to zip his/her coat. He/she should be able to put **both mittens** on by himself/herself easily. **Boots should be easy on/ easy off.** Please do not buy lace up boots or boots with eyelets you have to wrap back and forth on; these are extremely difficult for little hands. Ties at the top are fine. You may want to do a few dry runs putting all winter gear on and off to avoid any last minute morning frustrations. Any questions please ask. Thanks in advance!