

October News

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten teachers greatly enjoyed Back to School Night and sharing learning goals, the power of purposeful play and events for the year ahead. As learners, the students have greatly enjoyed reading star books including Harry the Dirty Dog, Caps for Sale, and Harry by The Sea while familiarizing themselves with routines as readers. In word study the students have been focusing on sorting words and pictures based on rhyming patterns. They have also started learning new sight words. As writers, they have been using pictures to tell stories about things they know a lot about. Some writing topics have included people, places, activities, and special times. In math the students have been working with number sense with 1-10. Our art enrichment program has involved literature extensions after reading stories such as “Rainbow Fish” and “Leaf Man.” Students have enjoyed their studies learning and sharing about themselves and each other. They will soon be shifting to science and are really excited to be meteorologists while studying the weather!

FIRST GRADE

We have been very busy in first grade! We have been reading lots of pattern books and exploring the many different patterns authors use. We have gone on nature walks to collect ideas for writing and are now creating our very own pattern books using what we have learned. In Math, we have been exploring different ways to make numbers up to 10 and we have been deepening our mathematical understanding through number talks. In Social Studies, we are learning about families. We created a family pattern book and shared special family traditions using blocks and paintings. We also interviewed a special family member to learn more about our past.

SECOND GRADE

Second Grade is beginning its next math unit focusing on strategies for adding and subtracting numbers within 20. Please be sure to include fact practice as part of your homework routine. The students are excited to begin publishing their first writing piece as second graders. Look for these Small Moment stories to come home soon. Our Social Studies unit has us reflecting on what it means to be a changemaker as we study how these individuals contribute to and create change in society. Wonderful discussions are emerging as we explore what it means to each of us and realize we can all be changemakers!

THIRD GRADE

Students are successfully following the routines of third grade.

We continue to consider the roles of people who are active in our community as we learn about what they do to make the world a better place. This week Mrs. Rourke came in to talk about her involvement with the Seeing Eye organization. We also had student council members visit our classes to talk about the good they do here at Lincoln School.

In writing, students are developing their personal narrative stories based on a significant small moment in their lives.

We are considering a variety of community service project ideas to pursue as a grade level. We are looking forward to the author, Elise Broach, later this month.

FOURTH GRADE

Mrs. Mac and Mrs. Russell enjoyed meeting the Grade 4 families at Back to School Night! Our readers are focused on their character studies, and writers have started brainstorming and drafting personal narratives. In math, we are wrapping up Chapter 1: Place Value and Problem Solving this week. All fourth graders completed a self-assessment and analyzed their assessments for areas of weakness. Our next unit of study is Chapter 2: Estimation and Number Theory. All students have been given a username and password for ThinkCentral (math textbook & workbook) and IXL. We are all looking forward to our field trip to Waterloo Village on October 17th, which connects closely and extends our study of the Early People of New Jersey in social studies!

FIFTH GRADE

Fifth grade math has been enjoying number talks. This week we have also been exploring how mathematicians estimate using reasonableness and how the Order of Operations helps mathematicians communicate in a universal language. Students have had fun learning math this week using walk-around problems and stations. Next week we will be working with bar models. In language arts, the fifth graders are beginning to draft personal narratives about their different life experiences. We have studied mentor texts written by other writers and are ready to begin our own work. In reading, we are continuing to build stamina, find books that interest and challenge us, and discover ways to push our thinking about the stories. Many fifth-graders are talking about the Battle of the Books challenge and have begun reading Battle of the Books books.