

News from Kindergarten!

December 17, 2007

Dear Families,

What a snowy start to winter and it's not even officially here yet! The kindergartners are doing a super job dressing and undressing for recess. They are quite independent and consequently, we are able to squeeze some outdoor time in when our schedule permits.

In Phonemic Awareness we are working on beginning sounds in words. As we move into the winter and begin the SIPPS program, the kindergartners will also work on ending and middle sounds in words.

In Writing Workshop everyone has been very busy selecting their favorite three page story and "fixing it up" for the Authors' Celebration this Wednesday at 8:30am in the classroom. Writers write about things they know a lot about and they write for an audience, in this case, you! They are looking forward to sharing their favorite one page and three page stories with you. They are very proud of their writing, as they should be.

Earlier in December, thanks to funding from the Curriculum Enrichment Committee, we were treated to some very special visitors from Drumlin Farm - a barred owl and a screech owl. The naturalist gave everyone time to observe the owls carefully (and from a safe distance) while she shared many facts about owls and answered questions from the kindergartners. In Science Workshop teams of kindergartners dissected an owl pellet and looked closely at some of the rodent bones contained in it with a hand lens and a Brock Magiscope (a very durable and easy to focus microscope for young children.) Even those who were a little squeamish initially were very engaged in the activity. Oh, and we all washed our hands afterwards, even though the owl pellets had been sterilized!

You're invited! Please remember that you are welcome to bring your child to school any morning at 8:40 for a look around the classroom. Arrival time can be very busy for teachers, so please don't plan to have an in-depth conversation with me, but by all means let your child brag a little about all their hard work. They would love to have you!

Wishing you a safe and fun vacation, Mrs. Chandler