

Dear Parents,

What a fun packed week. I could have written a newsletter every night with all the activities we did. We also had some more wonderful donations to the classroom this week! Thank you all for being so supportive and involved in our great adventure of learning!

Be sure to read Parent Notes and to sign up for the upcoming Parent/Teacher conferences. I look forward to seeing all of you. 😊

Highlights from this week to discuss with your child:

1. We invented a new game that is simple and has endless possibilities. One of us starts drawing a shape and everyone tries to guess what shape it is before the drawing is finished. We call it Top Ship Shape

2. On Halloween we made another new game: a ring toss game. The rings were made of tinfoil (pipe cleaners also work) and the cones were made with construction paper to resemble witches' hats. Points were allocated for each hat. Enjoy making up some games with your child. Then encourage your child to bring in the game and teach it to the class

3. We are ready to dive into a study of deep sea creatures. We had a great start by having a beta fish donated to our classroom. We can see his gills. THANKS! His name is Humphrey, named after the beloved character from our chapter book.

4. On Thursday we had Officer Mike visit our classroom to answer all our questions we had about the police. Here are a few of the topics covered: When do police officers sleep? Where do police officers sleep? (Remember we visited the fire station and saw that the firefighters sleep at the station.) What countries do you visit? (Remember we had the soldiers discuss how they help all around the world.) How many police officers are in Des Plaines? Do you exercise? How big is your jail? What do you have to do to become a police officer?

5. Our annual collection of Treats for the Troops is a success so far. Earlier this week we estimated how much candy we thought would be donated based on the 115 people at Plato Academy. Our estimates ranged from

15 to over 113 trillion. Before we sort and count the treats we will estimate again how much was donated. Have fun at home estimating how much candy your child collected from Halloween. Then count the candy. Figure out how long it will take to eat all the treats. Some strategies you can use are: Use the Calendar, Make a Chart, Look for a Pattern (2's or 5's), or Draw a picture. If your child makes an estimate be sure to have him/her explain the reasoning behind the estimation using the word "because"; they will be use to this from class. Then check in a few days to see if he/she wants to change the estimate.

Your partner in education, Mrs. Teresa Pape