

Dear Parents,

Highlights from this week to discuss with your child:

1. We have a wonderful problem solving pumpkin in our room. There is a large selection of nails, screws, nuts, and bolts and the problem is how to insert all of them into the pumpkin. We are using real hammers, screw drivers and wrenches. The students have been demonstrating great patience and consideration as we all work together to create our original pumpkin art.

2. We have only 1 chapter left in our chapter book, [The World According to Humphrey](#) by Betty G. Birney. Humphrey the hamster is a class pet in Mrs. Brisbane's room. In addition to his classroom escapades, each weekend this amazing hamster gets to sleep over with a different student. Do you think Humphrey would like sleeping over at your house for the weekend? Do you think Humphrey would stay in his cage at your house or come out at night to explore something? If yes, which room in your house would Humphrey like the most? Why? This is the first book in a series of twelve. Find more about Humphrey at [www.penguin.com/humphrey](http://www.penguin.com/humphrey).

3. On Tuesday local soldiers came to talk with our students about all the service they do for us and our country. We discussed their support they are currently giving to Puerto Rico. They also focused on the importance of staying healthy. We did push-ups, sit-ups, and jumping jacks (side straddle hops) with the soldiers. How many sit-ups can you do in two minutes? How many push-ups? The soldiers do a minimum of 53 sit-ups in 2 minutes and 42 push-ups within 2 minutes. Estimate how many you can do. What is the difference between how many you can do and how many the soldiers do?

4. On Wednesday we had a local florist donate his time, materials, and talent to help each student make an autumn flower arrangement for the Des Plaines librarians who help us out every Thursday morning. This was quite a treat for all of us. Of course we added a thank you note before delivering them to the librarians. The students can now make thank you

notes by themselves (remember our song from a few weeks ago). Hopefully the students will think of a few people at home that they want to thank and use the power of the pen to send a note. :)

5. The Toad book came home on Monday. Learning to read better and write books is a huge endeavor. What may look like a simple book is really a magnificent accomplishment. Books are treasures and best friends! Find a favorite book this week and make a big deal over it! We journaled about our favorite library book; ask your child to tell you about it.

Your partner in education, Mrs. Teresa Pape