

Dear Parents,

This week was packed with learning. Reflection is such an important part of the learning process that the bugs took a backseat to the bake sale, the aquarium, and our visiting toad. Our mealworms cooperated by not turning into pupas yet. Because reflection is so important about once a month visit the Plato webpage with your child and read through the highlights from a past newsletter.

Highlights from this week to discuss with your child:

1. Our annual bake sale to help find the cure for breast cancer is today, Friday, October 6th. This community outreach and service project includes science as we research cancer, literacy as we make signs and posters to advertise our sale (communication and creativity), and math as we measure our ingredients to make our chocolate chip cookie dough balls (collaboration) and as we count our coins to buy our treats. A copy of our recipe was sent home Thursday. We do not give homework at this age but if we did it would be to cook with your child. ☺ Thank you so much for supporting this fight against breast cancer and teaching our children to care for others!

2. Thanks to Mia and her family for letting their toad visit our classroom for the week. His name is Mr. Toad. How is he similar to the other amphibians we saw at the aquarium? How is he different?

3. At the very beginning of the year our class all agreed that after we studied bugs we wanted to learn more about sea creatures. The aquarium was a spectacular kick off for this exploration. However, because this is October a lot of energy will be focused on Halloween. We will use all that energy to write Halloween stories, poems, and songs. It will also creep into our math story problems and science experiments. Learning is not a race and we do not rush in order to cover material so we may end up with Halloween under the sea this month.

4. We saw almost every exhibit at the aquarium, which is quite an accomplishment! Visit the Shedd Aquarium website to once again reflect on all the species we saw. We even had a chance to touch the sea stars

and the sturgeons. We estimated in class how many fish we saw. There is a section on the Aquarium webpage that lists all the animals. Use that page to count and make a new estimate.

Your partner in education, Mrs. Teresa Pape

P. S. Can any of you tune our guitar? If so, you can either stop by at your convenience or bring the guitar home to tune. Thanks!

"The important thing is not to stop questioning." – Albert Einstein