

I just want to start by telling you all how proud I am of each of your children for doing such an amazing job saying the Pledge of Allegiance this week and last. They said it loud and proud each morning and were always ready with a riddle, joke, or quick reminder of the day. Way to go everybody!

This week, we spent some time on further exploring trees and the seasons. Our own tree in the classroom, representing the tree we visit every month, has undergone a few changes-seasonal changes that is. Come take a look and you may see a little surprise, too! We also read a really fun book about going on a leaf hunt and the kids got super excited when they realized some of the leaves we brought in were red oak, maple, and birch leaves! We made these AWESOME paper bag trees and after we finished, our buddies helped us make a list of things we are thankful for. You'll see next week how we tied the two together:)

Another super fun activity we did this week was one of my all time favorites. We used mini marshmallows and toothpicks to build! The challenge was to not only connect the materials, but to create a free standing structure. After leaving them out overnight, we came up with the conclusion that this is better for our buildings because the air dries and hardens the marshmallows thus making them sturdier! We learned a new word in the process that was fun to say: galvanized !

I introduced a new math game to the class earlier in the week as well. Addition Bingo has become very popular and it's super easy to make your own game at home, too! We don't have Subtraction Bingo yet, but I think I'll be making a few cards this weekend. I'm being told addition is too easy!

This week I turned the focus of our morning challenges solely to riddles. Not only are these great exercises to get our brain juices flowing first thing in the morning, but they are super excited when they come in that door. We're working on our letters through inventive spelling and writing what we think the answer(s) are to each riddle. One from this week-I am tall when I am young, and short when I am old. What am I? I was looking for candle, but LOVE that another student wrote a pencil and proved that sometimes there are more than one solution to a problem!!

Reminders:

- With the weather changing, note that instead of lugging around two pairs of shoes each day, feel free to leave your child's gym shoes here to change into every morning. They can wear their boots to recess and then home if you prefer.
- That being said, please remember that your child needs to be in gym shoes EVERYDAY!
- PAJAMA DRIVE! Have your child pick out a brand-new pair of pajamas to donate for our service project and let's see how many we can donate to children in shelters!
- We will be visiting the bank every Friday to make our deposits! Parents that have opened a savings account in your child's name already, feel free to send their deposit any day of the week and we will keep it somewhere safe until deposit day. Parents who have not opened an account yet, see Maria in the office and she will help you out!

As one of my favorite cartoon character's said, "that's all folks!" Have a great weekend and stay warm!

-Ms. Anna