

Dear Parents,

Highlights from this week to discuss with your child:

1. Every class has their own personality and special features. One exciting feature of this class is that after reading a book, we immediately point out the sequel that should follow. Because the original authors are not producing these sequels, we are starting to write them here in class. The first one was published Thursday afternoon - *Waiting is Very Hard!* Students are taking turns bringing it home to share with their families. Reading is fun but remember that "learning to read" is hard. Writing a book is a huge accomplishment at this age!

2. We have another new math game call Countdown by Cadaco. This game comes highly recommended because it has been a favorite of many of my classes. It is also available for you to borrow for a few nights; just stop by the classroom to check it out. At this stage any game with two dice or a deck of cards is helpful.

3. We had a wonderful surprise during our science discovery time in Ramps and Pathways. All of a sudden we had a marble tornado. Now the real science begins. How did that happen? Can we make it happen again? What happens if we add more marbles? Can we make it go faster? Check out the new pictures on our website.

4. Our hallway calendar mural continues to grow. The students also added a song to go along with it. Search YouTube with your child for another way to sing the months of the year. Encourage your child to teach it to our class. We all learn from one another.

5. We are still working toward our goal of going out to eat lunch at Via Roma. The students set up a restaurant almost every day in our room. It is so much fun to see their ideas grow and improve. It is always more elaborate than the time before. Our goal is to be ready to go out to eat at Via Roma all by ourselves because we can all read the menus ourselves and figure out how to pay for it ourselves. I have taken many classes out to eat and the students beam with pride not just because they can do it themselves but because everyone else believes they can do it too! We will not need any chaperones. I will try to take lots of pictures! 😊

Your partner in education, Mrs. Teresa Pape 😊

"The more you explain it, the less I understand it." - Mark Twain.