

Happy Monday and start to a new week!

**Highlights:** We read our LAST chapter this morning and started watching the movie. The kids are super excited to show you how hard they have been working on their books! At the end of the day, we discussed our interests and what we would like to explore next. It seems like we really like to learn about animals! The final vote was DINOSAURS!

Monday's specials are P.E. and Greek! Your children are busy preparing for the Greek program in a few weeks and they're super excited to get back on that stage! If you would like me to ask your child's Greek teacher to send home the songs or poems they are learning, please let me know and I will do so.

We DID go outside today! If your child does not have an extra change of clothes, please send them tomorrow. Even with snow-pants, especially with this much snow, our socks and pants can get wet and that's not comfortable:/ Also, please make sure your child has all the appropriate winter weather gear.

Just a reminder...

- We will be having a PTO sponsored lunch and pajama day for Valentine's Day this Wednesday! I will attach a class list to assist your child in writing their cards:)

Happy Tuesday Parents!

I have to address something I am totally mortified about! In yesterday's blurb, I mentioned that some of the class was sad we wouldn't have a chapter book to read today and said we wouldn't be reading one for a while with the suggestion to you all to possibly do this at home in the meantime. I should have clarified that the reason we won't be reading a new chapter book quite yet is because we haven't chosen one yet pertaining to dinosaurs! I'm sorry if there was any confusion. I'm sure in the next couple weeks we will be starting a new one together:)

**Highlights:** We finished our movie today and who doesn't love a happy ending? The Poppers all got to venture together to Antarctica to visit Captain and the rest of the penguins living large. Afterwards, we had quite a lengthy discussion about the similarities and differences we found between the book and the movie. Then someone asked me, "why do they change the movie if the movie is made after the book?" So of course I answered honestly and replied that I still ask myself that same thing when it comes to a few of my favorite books made into movies. Well this turned into a whoooooole other talk! We read the book The Story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf this morning and learned the meaning of not judging a book, or person, by its cover. Great read and even better lesson!

To kick off our exploration of dinosaurs, we wrote a KWL chart together. It turns out we know a whole lot about dinos already! We came up with some really great questions to get us started and I will send you a picture tomorrow morning.

We were able to go outside again today for recess, yay! Please parents, make sure your child has all the appropriate winter weather gear especially snow pants, boots, and gloves so they can play comfortably in the snow:)

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!!!!!

We had an extra special day today! This morning, we read There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed a Rose together and had a pretty good laugh at this old lady who keeps swallowing crazy things, especially around

holidays! Afterwards, we decorated our valentine bags, danced, played, built, and wrote cards. On Wednesdays, we have P.E. and then Greek, but just before specials I wanted to share something with the class. I was watching an episode of Planet Earth II last night and there was a segment about the Chinstrap penguins that live on Zavodovski Island. It is the largest colony of penguins with over 1.5 million Chinstrap and another 180,000 Macaroni penguins. The kids found it very interesting that the mother and father Chinstraps would rotate every other day in making the trip for food as opposed to how the Emperor penguins distinguish their roles!

What a beautiful day for the park! We finally got to trek on over there and when we returned in the afternoon, we took our time passing out our valentines for everybody. Thank you so much for helping us make this such a wonderful day! Please send snow-pants so your child can play in the field of snow with all of their friends:)

Have an amazing rest of your Valentine's Day and see you tomorrow-sans pajamas:)

Happy Thursday!

Today was another busy day! From soccer games, to lego math, and everything in between. This morning, I gave the class a challenge of using their legos to chart and count by twos. They LOVE playing with legos and are up to new "challenges" everyday so why not make things more interesting? We started playing around with different patterns and number sequences. This also helped us learn some math vocabulary like parallel, perpendicular, horizontal, and vertical. I will send you pictures when they have finished!

We also spent some time journaling together and then we watched a very interesting short Nat Geo kids clip about dinosaurs. Everyone was so excited to share some fun facts we learned like dinosaurs at one time lived on every continent (then we talked about continents!), some dinosaurs could swim, and that birds are direct descendants of dinosaurs. Whoa! Afterwards we headed down to the gym and your children decided to all play a game of soccer together. They took it upon themselves to take a vote, then assign positions, and ultimately how the winner would be determined. After the first game, they wanted to make it fair so they played a second game and changed teams so everyone could win. I love how thoughtful and caring for others this class is!!

Thursday's special is music and they LOVE having Mr. Oleg!

Snow pants were sent home today! They all got pretty wet and dirty at the park so you know it was a fun time! Please keep them over the three day weekend and bring back Tuesday:)