

Dear Parents,

Highlights from this week to discuss with your child:

1. New vocabulary words: crowd, decoy, agitate, spoke, visualize, calculated, brawl, resumed, unstrapped, contribute, and slop. Vocabulary words are in bold within this newsletter. Can you guess which one we are having the most fun acting out? You guessed it...agitate. As I reread this, I can see how that *might* come across sarcastically. We really are having lots of fun acting out agitations. We finish by going back to one of our first vocabulary words and all sigh with contentment.

2. We are taking **advantage** of the beautiful spring weather. We are taking a follow-up nature hike today to see our **tadpole** (which is not a tadpole any more). Along the way we are looking for new blossoms, **erosion**, baby animals, and measuring plant growth. We also took our Ramps and Pathways exploration outside for a day. The outside atmosphere was **beneficial** to our building and creating because when the excitement grew and the volume increased, we didn't have to stop and turn the volume down. The freedom to focus fully on our experiments and models motivated us to share more, celebrate more, build more, and learn more. Try going outside this weekend with your child with a handful of favorite books and read them LOUDLY just for fun (and learning).

3. We are almost finished with our novel study of the drought in Gooseberry Park. Ask your child: Which part of the **Master** Plan would you have liked to do? What would you do if we had a **drought** this summer? What do you think the next Gooseberry Park book will be about? What **decoy** would you use to get Mrs. Teresa out of the room? Who do you **resemble** most? Which do you like better, **canines** or **felines**? Do you think Professor Albert should find out that all the animals are friends?

5. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR HAVING YOUR CHILD PRACTICE THEIR LINES AND DANCE**CHOREOGRAPHY** AT HOME. Saying their lines once a day WITH EXAGGERATED **EXPRESSION** AND PRONUNCIATION and singing and dancing to the song one time each night is enough. Even if they know it, the repetition is **vital** to offset the butterflies that inevitably show up on the big day.

The students will wear black pants (black sweat pants, black jeans, or black leggings for girls) and **plain** white t-shirts. We will be painting on whiskers and a cat nose at the church right before the program and also wearing cat ears. The ears will stay here at school for rehearsals and I will bring them to the program. After the program, your child can keep his/her cat ears as a souvenir of our one-of-a-kind original **jazz gig!**

Your Partner in Education, Mrs. Teresa Pape 😊

P. S. Local libraries are gearing up to start their summer reading programs. Most of them put a lot of effort into providing fun activities and rewards for reading.

