

Dear Parents,

This year just keeps getting better and better. The whole class is **determined** to learn new things, invent **unique** creations, and become more caring and **sympathetic** people. We are starting to reflect on some of the highlights from this year.

Highlights from this week to discuss with your child:

1. Do you remember our first study of arthropods? Sing "Head, Shoulders, Abdomen, Abdomen." Do you remember our pet mealworms and the creative obstacle courses we made for them? Our mealworms never did turn into **pupas** and go through their **metamorphosis** into beetles.

2. Wow! We really stretched our perseverance this week in Ramps and Pathways. We used our rehearsal time and our open gym time trying to set up a ramp that would take a marble from one wall all the way across the width of the gym to the other wall and start coming back again. We had reached the other wall but did not have a return in place yet when our time was up. The preschool class so graciously moved their activity outside and gave us another half an hour to complete our mission. We had 2 groups working on separate ideas and BOTH GROUPS SUCCEEDED! Knowing that the average person has an attention span of 7 minutes, know that your child worked on their solution for an hour (wanting to give up at times...but didn't). I am so proud of them but more importantly they are proud of themselves. We added **perseverance** to our vocabulary word wall.

3. On Wednesday, a student from Ms. Bia's class brought over her hermit crab to share with our class. Each child had a chance to hold it if they chose. This was special to us because Gwendolyn the hermit crab is one of the characters in Gooseberry Park. We learned that hermit crabs like fruits and vegetables and tap water can be dangerous to them. We added "**tap water**" to our vocabulary wall. Pasta is a delicacy for the hermit crab. We added **delicacy** to our vocabulary wall. This invoked a lot of discussion. Continue the discussion at home: What delicacy does your family enjoy?

5. We are not big on homework here at Plato because we want your child exploring, imagining, cooking with you, talking with you, and reading their own choice of books. However, there is homework this week...Ask your child to show you the jump turn to the right that is in our upcoming gig. Your child knows which one I am talking about. Would you please check to make sure your child is turning to the right on each jump? Thanks!

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!**

See you on Tuesday! Wear your Field Day t-shirt with your choice of shorts or pants. Be sure to wear gym shoes.

Your Partner in Education, Mrs. Teresa Pape 😊

P. S. There are a few boots in the hallway that can be brought home Tuesday. The extra clothes will come home on Thursday along with your child's journal full of memories from the year. Keep an eye out for it...you won't want to miss this keepsake.