

Dear Parents,

Although Matilda's parents don't know how brilliant their little girl is, there is now someone in her life that does. Although she has started later than she should have (because her parents don't think school is important), Matilda is enrolled at Crunchem Hall Primary School. Her teacher, Miss Honey, realizes how extraordinary Matilda is. Ask your child to describe the headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, listing as many adjectives as he/she can.

In the novel, Matilda recites a limerick that she wrote for Miss Honey. A limerick is a 5-line poem that is usually humorous and has a specific rhythm and rhyming pattern. We read several examples of limericks before writing our own:

Sam Loves Ham and Jam  
There once was a man named Sam,  
who really loved to eat ham.  
He went to the store,  
and he bought some more.  
Then, he also bought jam.

In order to continue gaining number sense, we've been discussing place value...the idea that the value of a digit (0-9) is determined by its position in a number. We played a game called "Roll it! Make it! Expand it!" using Base 10 Blocks to help visualize the concept. We will continue to practice this, as it is the foundation for increasingly complicated math concepts.

We took a close look at Frida Kahlo's "The Frame," and we are imitating the mixed medium process she used by making our own version of the painting. We also began a group mosaic project that uses 3,996 stickers and a color key coded 40" x 36" grid. After working for a bit, the kids made a prediction about what the image will be...and they were right!! We are looking forward to seeing the finished masterpiece! Stay tuned...

WE DID IT!! We surpassed our goal of 500 books and collected exactly 600 books to donate to Bernie's Book Bank. A truck came to pick up the boxes this morning, and we are thrilled to know that we are helping others by giving them the opportunity to receive one of the most wonderful gifts, the joy of reading.

Notes:

- Be sure to read the Parent Notes that you receive from the office. There are many important dates and exciting events coming up.

- Please be sure your child brings weather-appropriate outerwear to school. (If your child wears boots to school, please also send a pair of gym shoes.) Also, please make sure everything is labeled with his/her initials or name.
- I will be placing a Scholastic Book order on February 1.
- We will be participating in National School Choice Week next week. Please look for the yellow scarf that your child received last year. Scarves will be given to all new students.

As always, please feel free to call, email, or text me with any questions or concerns.

Have a great weekend!

Bridget Cell: (847) 650-3454 Email: [Bridget.Grimaldi@hotmail.com](mailto:Bridget.Grimaldi@hotmail.com)