

Dear Parents,

Whew...what a week!! We didn't waste any time getting back into our routine after returning from Spring Break. There are already so many amazing things happening in Room 4!

Since the kids love making ooey, gooey, sticky, slimy potions, I used that as my inspiration for choosing our current Roald Dahl novel read-aloud...George's Marvelous Medicine. Most grandmothers are sweet, caring, and love to spend time with their grandkids. Not George's grandma...she's mean, bossy, rude, lazy, cruel, selfish and creepy. (Look at all of those adjectives!) Since his parents aren't home, George is responsible for giving his grandma her medicine at exactly 11 o'clock. He decides that his homemade recipe is the best remedy for her grouchiness. Ask your kiddo about some of the ingredients he added to the giant pot he was using to hold his concoction.

When I presented the kids with the idea of learning about the country of Wales and creating a display for Culture Night (April 12), they were eager to get started. They had several interesting things they wanted to research, so we organized our ideas on a KWL chart and immediately started looking for information in books that I had taken out from the library. We have been practicing how to say a few simple greetings in Welsh and brewed (and taste-tested, of course) some tea. The tea was made from leaves and flowers that are in the form of a bulb. After the bulb was infused, it blossomed into a flower...looking beautiful and tasting delicious.

This week we completed the fourth book in the Zoey and Sassafras series. It turned out that a group of kids was hosting a carwash on the weekends to raise money for a class trip, and the soapy water was draining into the pipes causing the stream to become polluted. Zoey helped the kids brainstorm other ways to raise money, was given permission from the village to paint signs in order to prevent additional stream pollution, and received magical rainbow stones from the merhorses as a way to show their gratitude for her help.

After a few weeks of researching, planning, and preparation, we have finally begun to paint our Jackson Pollack inspired paintings with Ms. Bia's class. This is an on-going activity, and we are hoping the weather will cooperate so we can set up an "outdoor studio" in the parking lot. In true Jackson Pollack style, things will get a bit messy for sure!

The kids are really seeing themselves as the authors and illustrators that they are. We have a few additions to make to our class book, and then we will send

it in to be printed. Once we receive the books, the kids will have the opportunity to see the writing process come full circle...from brainstorming to publishing.

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 remember to complete and return the order form for the class book. I have additional forms if you need another one. (The form needs to be returned even if you are not interested in ordering a copy. Just check the box on the bottom of the page.)**
- **Please remember to turn in \$10 cash for the End of the Year program shirt.**
- **Since the country of Wales is known for its many castles, we will be making our own models of castles using a variety of supplies and materials. If you have anything around your house that you think would be useful and you'd be willing to donate it for our project, please send it with your child. The kids are so creative and can find a use for just about anything!**

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

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