

Dear Parents,

We are learning more about The Twits, and our lists of character traits are ongoing. One thing we now know is that they like to eat Bird Pie on Wednesdays, and they have a very interesting way of capturing the main ingredient. We also know that they are retired circus monkey trainers, and Mr. Twit has always dreamed of forming an “upside - down” monkey circus. He forces Muggle-Wump and his family to stand on their heads for hours at a time, but with the help of Roly-Poly Bird, they manage to escape from their cage. Now...they are all plotting revenge against the cruel couple. Ask your kiddo for more details!

Ms. Alyse from The Wildbird Shack came to see us this week. She told us that there are 10,000 species of birds worldwide, 914 in North America, and 444 in Illinois. We learned about different birds that are common in our community, we were able to see and touch different nests, and we talked about what things harm birds. Each student also made his/her own nest ball using cotton and moss, which are helpful supplies for nest building. Hang it outside and see if you have any winged visitors stop by!

We have been watching the progress of a mural being painted on the side of the Des Plaines History Center when we walk to the park. We stopped to talk to artist Jason Watts, who told us about the process he is using to create such a large and colorful painting. He was very impressed with our knowledge of famous artists, and encouraged us to continue exploring art techniques.

We have one final step to complete and then our Jackson Pollack paintings will be finished. This week we made frames. With the help of Ms. Bia's husband, we cut wood using a saw. We nailed the pieces to a board, and we'll adhere the paintings inside. Of course, you will be invited to view the paintings when the hallway “gallery” is open.

On Friday, 3 of the 6 butterflies emerged from their chrysalides. We even saw one happen live!! (I've done this activity over 20 times and have never seen it happen in person before!) The kids noticed a red liquid that resembled blood, but it's just butterfly meconium. We also observed a butterfly using its proboscis to suck juice fresh fruit. Nature is amazing!

Notes:

- Be sure to read the Parent Notes that you receive from the office. As the school year is coming to an end, there are many important dates

and exciting events coming up.

- The following link is the Spanish song "Hecho Con Tus Sueños" which the kids will be singing during the End of the Year Program. Please copy and paste the link to have your child practice at home. <https://youtu.be/TCKMuBk8DTM>
- Our class will be singing "A Million Dreams" from (one of my favorite movies) The Greatest Showman. Please have your child practice this song for the End of the Program. (It can be found on YouTube.) **Please have your child practice his/her lines that were sent home.**
- I have the t-shirts that the kids will be wearing for End of the Year Program, and I will bring them to The Bridge that morning. (The kids can just slip it on over an undershirt or tank top.) Please remember that your child needs to wear blue jeans, blue jean shorts, or a blue jean skirt.
- Registration for the Des Plaines Library Summer Reading Program starts June 1. There are also concerts, crafts, and other activities all summer long. For more information visit dppl.org, call (847) 376-2839 or visit the Youth Services desk at the library.

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

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