

Dear Parents,

As the year comes to an end (which is hard to believe), we are reaching the end of several classroom projects as well.

We finished *The Twits* this week and made our own versions of the story with our Chapter Check-Ins. We weren't ready to say good-bye to the, um, "interesting" couple, so we've been recreating some of the chapters during Reader's Theater. The kids found things around the classroom to use as props...a yardstick for Mrs. Twit's walking stick, blocks for salt and pepper shakers, K'Nex pieces for spaghetti and worms, etc. I'm lucky that I always have a front row seat!

As a culminating activity to our bird study, each one of the kids had a chance to build his/her own birdhouse. This involved fine motor skill practice, following step-by-step directions, and patience. We are hoping some birds will build a nest inside the birdhouses using materials from the nest balls we made last week. Keep me posted!

The 2 remaining butterflies emerged from their chrysalides, giving us several days to observe them all in the dome habitat. We even shared small pieces of fruit from our snacks with them and made final observations in our journals before releasing them outside. It's been interesting to watch the stages of metamorphosis.

Thursday was World Turtle Day, so we celebrated Alfie's special day by making a turtle shell out of a Frisbee and foam shapes. The kids came up with their own ways to make a head, tail, and legs. Some of the kids really wanted their project to look realistic, so they kept looking at Alfie for inspiration.

As you know, this week we tie-dyed our Field Day t-shirts. (Please have your child wear it on Tuesday.) I'm looking forward to see how they turn out. Each one will be one-of-a-kind...just like each kid in Room 4!

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, including the End of the Year Program.
- 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](http://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.

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