

MRS. MACDONALD'S NEWS

I Have...Who has...

We have been learning new vocabulary words with a game called I have who has. There have been numerous requests to repeat the game. In this game, everyone gets three to four vocabulary words. The word card says "I have fatal, who has the synonym for complete" then the players all need to read their words and see if one of their words is a synonym for complete. It is a great game to reinforce new words and word meanings. It also reinforces the concept of synonyms.

The best part of this game is that I am hearing these words used in the classroom and seeing them used in journal writing. That is what learning new vocabulary is all about...using it.

The Academy
Minds in Motion

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Important Dates

- © September 23rd- Landscape helpers 9-2
- © Field trip to the Newport Aquarium Thursday, September 28th -we leave at 9:15
- © September 29th Early Dismissal 12:30

Language Arts and Technology

This week we worked on singular and plural nouns. We reviewed how words become plural by adding an -s or -es, we reviewed that there are some words that are exceptions (like teeth, geese, dice, and mice), we also learned that some words stay the same (salmon, trout). We practiced using these words in sentences and identifying singular and plural words.

We continue to learn about poetry and write our own poems. The process of getting these typed on the computer has been a long process, but a learning process. We learned that if we type something and do not save it, it will not be there later. Everyone is getting an opportunity to use the computer and learn how to work with Microsoft Word. We worked on centering, changing font, and typing.

In journal writing we wrote about what it would be like to journey to the ocean's floor. These were very interesting. We wrote about what could you do with a pencil other than just write with it? Some ideas were very creative and innovative. We also wrote about a favorite meal and why it was a favorite meal. Writing skills are improving.

Mathematics

This week in math we worked on ordering decimals and adding decimals. We looked at numbers with numbers in the tenths, hundredths, and thousandths place. Adding the numbers was easier than ordering the numbers. We will continue to reinforce this skill. We worked on basic multiplication facts. We worked on reading numbers with exponents. We learned that 5^3 is the same as $5 \times 5 \times 5$ and is read five to the third power. We learned that $5 \times 5 \times 5 = 125$ not 15. We worked on reviewing our math facts and reinforcing basic math skills. We continue to work in our Singapore math books.

Science and Social Studies



This week in Science we worked on salt dough formations of the ocean floor. We made salt dough and then worked on creating the abyss, the continental shelf, the continental slope, the trench and oceanic ridges. It was a great review of the parts of the ocean floor. We learned more about the types of creatures found in the ocean and prepare for more investigation at the Newport Aquarium next week. We learned about currents and tides and discovered some interesting facts about the rotation of ocean currents. The Northern Hemisphere has clockwise rotations in the currents and the Southern Hemisphere has counter clockwise rotations.

In social studies we learned about canals, straits, and rivers. We learned about the important rivers of the world including the Nile. We continue to work on map skills and locating places on a map.

Next week we will be visiting the Newport Aquarium. The Aquarium has so many wonderful ocean creatures and maps for us to explore. We appreciate all the parent chaperones we will have on the trip. It will be great to have your help.. It is very important for us to stay together as a group. We will participate in a special "classroom experience" offered at the Newport Aquarium. It is about Sea Turtles. This extra program will enrich our field trip.

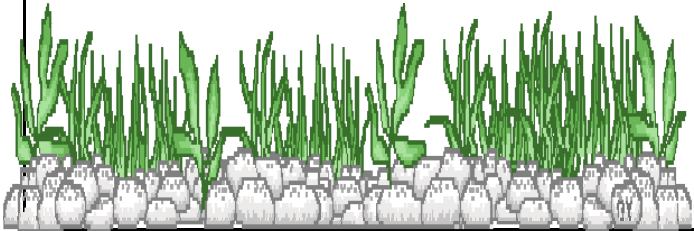
Landscape

Some members of the church already came to the school and started trimming back some of the bushes.

If you can come and help, we will be having a landscape clean-up on Saturday from 9-2.

I will be there early **and** late. Ian has 10:00 and 4:00 games.

Let's spruce it up!!



Reading Groups

This week we began reading the book The Giver by Lois Lowry. It is a Newbury Award winning book. It is about a boy named Jonas that lives in a perfect world. Everything is under control. There is no war, no pain, no fear. Then Jonas joins the Twelves and is ready for his Assignment... Jonas will need to make an important choice. It started out a bit slow, and I heard the dreaded word "boring" but as the week continued I was hearing "Can we read another chapter!"

In another group, we are finishing Tall Tails, this book of the Newfoundland dog that accompanied Lewis and Clark on their expedition across the United States presents history in a interesting way. It is the story of the expedition from the dog's point of view. It is rich in facts about the historic trip.

Spanish

Spanish Week of Sept 18

Classes were exposed to new vocabulary this week through literature. Clic, clac, muu, vacas escritoras(Click, Clack, Moo, Cows that Type) by Doreen Cronin . It is the story of a farmer whose animals obtain a typewriter and demand electric blankets. The children were introduced to some preliminary vocabulary and relied on context to understand the story.

New vocabulary:

La vaca	cow
La leche	milk
La gallina	chicken
Los huevos	eggs
El granjero	farmer
Una nota	note/letter
un problema	a problem
Maquina de escribir	typewriter
Hace frío.	It's cold.
Las mantas electricas	electric blankets
El pato	duck
Un trampolín	trampoline

**The Academy Minds in
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Speedy-n- Pokey

Speedy returned from IOWA. It sounds like he and Kyla had a fantastic trip. Speedy even returned with a souvenir pressed penny.

This weekend students will be bringing home their fact files. These need to be returned on Monday.

We have been working on our zoo project.

Students are working on the inquiry based investigation.

It is amazing how this has gone into other aspects of their education. In order for us to work on a question to pose for our investigation, the students have been looking at animals in a different way. They are making comparisons and observations on many different levels.

Gala information came home this week.

Watch for more information about this special event taking place in March.