

MRS. MACDONALD'S MULTI-AGE CLASSROOM



Picture Day!

Zoo Trip

Our comparative analysis time has arrived. Time sure flies and now with October nearly over we need to get ready for our trip to the Cincinnati Zoo. I have scheduled a trip for Monday, October 30th. Next week will be extremely busy with picture day, explorer program, and early dismissal. The weather, however, will not hold out for long

and we need to make some observations of hands, paws, hooves and feet at the zoo. We will need drivers. If you are available to drive on October 30th, please fill out the attached form and return it to school next week.

Everyone needs to fill out a permission slip.

The zoo will provide free access to the zoo for the students, but

chaperones will have a \$5.00 fee and cars will be charged \$6.50 for parking. I will need three drivers, but everyone is welcome to join us.



THE ACADEMY MINDS IN MOTION

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Important Dates

- ☺ October 25th Picture Day—out of uniform day
- ☺ October 26th— 7:00 explorer program
- ☺ October 27th—Early Dismissal 12:00 Legacy Project items due (stamps, addresses, \$4)
- ☺ October 30th Field trip to the zoo for observations.

Wordly Wise 3000

This week your child should have brought home their Wordly Wise vocabulary workbook for you to see.

Each Wordly Wise lesson opens with a word list that we will go over together. Here we find the pronunciation of the word, the definition, and sentences using the words in context.

This word list is then followed by five exercises per lesson to reinforce the meaning of the words.

The first lesson is **finding the meaning** and draws on students knowledge of the definition of the word in order to answer questions.

The second lesson is **just the right word** where students choose a word from the word list to improve a sentence.

The third lesson is **applying meanings**. Here, a question is posed using the new word and students need to find the correct answer. There is often more than one answer to the question. This is a good test-taking skill to develop.

The fourth lesson is **word relationships**. In this section students will find words that are similar and words that are different from the words of the week. The fifth and final lesson is a narrative that contains all of the words. Students read the narrative then answer questions about it.

Students are encouraged to use weekly words in the classroom. We will be adding a jar to the classroom where a marble will be added each time someone uses a new vocabulary word. When the jar is full, the class will earn a reward.

Mathematics

There will be many different types of math work coming home in this week's folder. We worked on mode, median, and range this week. Mode is the number found most often in a series of numbers. So if the test scores were 70, 55, 70, 38, 100, 99, and 88, the mode would be 70 because it was found twice. Using the same numbers if we wanted to find the range we needed to put the numbers in order from smallest to largest and then subtract the difference. Our range on this test score would then be $99 - 38 = 61$. We practiced this skill on a game on Quia. It was quite easy until we had to figure out the range with positive and negative numbers. We worked on more conversions of cm to m and liters to ml. We tackled more feet to inches and feet to yards. We worked on long division. There are many opportunities for error in these problems and some students need to slow down and work a bit more carefully so that they complete the problems accurately. The motivation may be that those that score 95% or higher will not need to continue daily practice of this skill. Once students show me they have mastered long division, they can stop drilling this skill. Careless work will continue practicing long division.

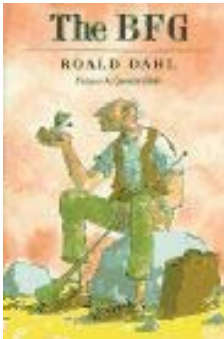
Vocabulary words:

These words are listed on my website. The next five weeks are currently listed. These can be found at

www.mrsmacdonald.net

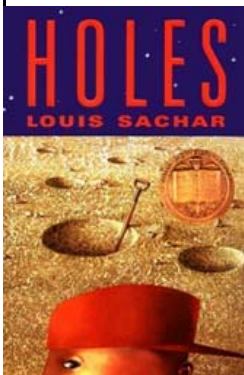
Then go to wordly wise 3000

Reading



This week in reading group, the group not reading the Choose Your Own Adventure books last week, asked if they could read them this week. They each brought one of these books home to read. We then began reading The BFG by Roald Dahl. He is the author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, James and the Giant Peach and The Magic Finger. He is a wonderful author. He is extremely descriptive and can help the reader visualize the story they are reading. He makes great use of adjectives in his writing. We will continue reading this story next week.

Another group is reading Holes by Louis Sachar. He is another funny writer. He is extremely descriptive and tosses humor into all his writings. This is a great story that has two parallel stories going on at the same time. He intertwines these stories and includes flashbacks. The stories seem to start at six on a clock with one story going clockwise and the other going counter-clockwise. They meet in the end and make the reader go "Ooooooh". Holes, City of Ember, People of Sparks and The Giver are all books I strongly suggest you read with your child. They are great stories and can be fun to discuss together.



I am trying to expose your children to many different types of literature. I hope to develop a love of reading. A collection of Newberry Award winning books is now available in our classroom and an author's pack of books. These are some great new books for everyone's reading pleasure. Books can take you anywhere.

After both groups have read Holes, I would like to show the movie so that we can compare and contrast them. The movie is very good.

Picture Day

Wednesday, October 25th is picture day. Students may wear what they like on this day. Envelopes from Easterling Studios will be sent home today. Please return these with your picture package choice clearly marked and enclose your check in the envelope.

Pictures will be taken at 10:00 and will be ready in two to three weeks.

Children are like wet
cement.

Whatever falls on
them

makes a lasting
impression.

This week in Spanish

El Cuerpo – the body

La cabeza – the head

Los brazos – the arms

Las piernas – the legs

Los dedos - the fingers

Los pies – the feet

El estomago – the stomach

El Esqueleto – the skeleton



Book Orders

Thank you for your book orders. The order will be placed this weekend. If you would like to order books next month and keep them a surprise, just let me know by writing Surprise on the order. These books would not come home with your child.

The Academy Minds in Motion

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Explorers: We have been working on the concept of conquistadors, explorers, trade routes and map skills. Students are working hard and have a strong knowledge of many different explorers.

They loved the parody the Animaniacs did on the story of Magellan. You really feel sorry for him after seeing how many times he thought he had found a trade route to the Indies, but instead just discovered new lands.

Magellan, Drake, Columbus, Balboa, Coranodo, Pizzaro, Hudson, LaSalle, Ponce De Leon, and many more...ask your child to tell you something about these explorers.



Zoo Permission

I, _____, give my child _____, permission to go to the Cincinnati Zoo on Monday, October 30th.

He/She may ride in the car with a licensed driver.

_____ I would like to go on this trip. I can drive and take _____ in my car.

_____ I cannot go on this trip.

My emergency contact number is _____