

Dear Parents,

This week the teachers started attending our Professional Learning Communities on Wednesday. During this time I will meet with the other Kindergarten teachers in the district to discuss various topics. We meet twice a month for an hour at a time. I go to the Effingham Elementary school for this meeting. Therefore, I'm gone for an hour and a half. We have a substitute teacher who goes from room to room that day.

Animated Literacy – We met Sadie Seal, who is helping us with our “s sound” and we met Rosie Raccoon & Rhino Ralph, who are helping us with our “r sound”. Our new words this week are: **stop & rat**. Our writing pages helped us with the words dad, top, & pot.

Reading – This week we are working on what happened first, next, & last. We also started working on our “short a” sound at the beginning and in the middle of words. We read two poems that are helping us with that sound. Our poems were called Alan's Apples & Pam's Cab. This week our little story has two new words that are also using our “short a” sound. Our new words are: **that & Nan**. **Please listen to your child read this story several times over the weekend and bring it back to school on Monday to read to me.**

Math – Our math series that we use is from the MacMillan/McGraw Hill publishing company. Our books provide us with a large variety of activities to do with math. We have been working on concepts like: top, middle, bottom, inside, outside, left and right this week. We are working on recognizing our numbers from 0-5 and knowing their value.

Centers – This week we are studying apples so at each center we did an apple activity. At Good Luck Bear center we made a book called Apples Apples. They will bring this book home later next week. Have them read this book to you. At Bedtime Bear Center they made apple number cards to help us recognize our numbers and their value. Next we played a game where each child turned over one card and told the number. The child who had the highest number got the cards. At the end we counted to see who received the most cards. The winner received a treat. At Birthday Bear Center they colored the cover to our Apple Season book. They also made an apple man. Next at Cheer Bear Center the children made four apple trees, one for each season of the year. We read and discussed Gail Gibbons book, The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree. Finally at Tender Heart Bear Center the children made an apple man.

**Reminders:**

1. **Money for pictures must be sent to school by Picture Day (Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>). Everyone will have their pictures taken even if you don't want to buy any pictures. These are the pictures that will go into our “Year Books.”**
2. **Please send one apple to school by Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.**
3. **Send \$5.00 for your photo book.**