



Gehlen Gazette



What's Happening

September 16, 2011

Dear Parents,

Things are busy, busy, busy in first grade! We are busy with Daily Five, art projects, The Leader In Me, learning math routines and games, celebrating poetry and color, and hearing Bible stories.

During **Daily 5 Literacy** we continue to build our stamina and become more familiar with who we are as readers. We launched the Read to Someone component and realized that it's fun to read with lots of different people. Soon we will learn how to be "reading coaches" as part of Read to Someone. We also began writing "Monday Journals" where we write about our weekend experiences.

Our **poetry anthologies** grew a little this week as we added poems about color. These poems were a source of inspiration for creating our own color poems. Using "Lotus diagrams" as a prewriting graphic organizer we chose colors and created our poems.

In **Daily 5 Math** we learned the game "Top-It" where two cards are drawn and the higher number "wins." We also worked with tally marks as a way of gathering data. We learned the tally game, "Dice-Roll and Tally" and added "Number Roll and Write" as Paper Practice components. Math time also has us working in our journals, practicing number formation, representation,

and every day uses of numbers.

Art projects this week were built around the theme of creation. We are making Creation Books where each day of the Creation Story is represented by a different medium or technique. So far, we have paper-weaved, painted with texture, made cut-paper collages, and created crayon-resist paintings.

Oops! If your child didn't bring a book bag and homework folder home on Tuesday it was a mix-up on my part as well as theirs! Thanks for your understanding as we get this routine off the ground. We should be much more consistent now. Math won't start for a few more weeks and our first sharing assignment will be the week of the 26th.

Back-To-School Night is next Friday, the 23rd. This is a very important night where we can all come together to celebrate our school. During your classroom visit your child will be your tour guide and have a list of things to share with you. After this visit our school community will gather in the gym for a presentation. Part of this time will include our class singing the 7 Habits Song! I hope to see all of you there!

Have a wonderful weekend!

—Mrs. Gehlen

Forest Hills
Lutheran
School



The
LeaderInMe[™]
great happens here

This week we had an overview of Habits 5-7 and put hand motions to each as reminders. Have your first grade Leader demonstrate them for you! We finished learning the "7 Habits Song" and practiced with the 2nd graders for our performance at Back to School Night!

Last week we made our own 7 Habits trees and this week we added our own unique sunshine to shine down on the tree. This sun represents the light God shines in each of us. It is through His grace, mercy and love that we are able to put these 7 Habits to effective use and be the best people we can be!