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# Kindergarten News

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**September 10, 2009**

Forest Hills Lutheran School  
Mrs. Heldt, heldts@fhls.org

It has been another busy week in Kindergarten. The students have grown so much in one week. They have the routine down and are making friends. We are working hard at building our stamina for school. Most of our specials started this week with Music, Library, and PE. Next week Spanish will start and our normal schedule will begin helping with our consistency in class.

I am hard at work compiling a volunteers schedule based on the volunteer survey you filled out at the start of school. When you volunteer in the classroom, you may have the opportunity to work with small groups of students or one-on-one with a student too. The one area that I am in need of the most help is material preparation (copying, book making, etc). I will send home a list of the possible areas in which parent help can be used throughout the day. That way, you can compare that list to the time you are able to volunteer.

## Important Notes and Reminders

- Last chance to order books from Scholastic this month is Monday. Reading is important and should be done everyday. Don't miss this chance to order books for you home library. Book orders are due on Monday, September 14th.
- In class volunteers won't start until October, but I am need of some material prep helpers now. I could use two weekly volunteers on Mondays and Fridays AM or PM. This would entail stuffing homework folders or Friday folders and some copying, book making, etc. See me if you are interested or send me an email.
- Remember the school fundraiser is going on until September 18th. Please check with your family and friends and see if anyone would be interested in ordering to help raise funds for the Parent Teacher Council. The PTC sponsors many great school and family events throughout the year!!
- Our regular chapel schedule begins next week. Chapel will be on Wednesdays at 8:20 or once all classes arrive. Remember that families are always welcome to join us for chapel.
- Check you Friday Envelopes every week for important information pertaining the classroom. Student work will be saved throughout the week and sent home in the Friday Envelope as well. It wasn't working to the students take their papers home everyday, so I will hold onto them and send them home on Fridays. Thanks!

## Curriculum Highlights

- Literacy: Read to self is going great. We have made it up to 5 minutes and our goal is 15!!! Our sight words this week are 'the' and 'a.' As we develop our stamina, we will cover more sight words each week. Our bodies are still transitioning to this all day everyday school schedule, so it takes time. This week our letters of focus were the letter t and h. Please continue to support classroom learning at home while you read books and complete home-work assignments. We have been working in our Writer's Workshop. The goal for writing at this point in the year is to write a story about something that has happened to us. We start with a picture of our story and then we try and write the words or letters we can hear and know. This concept ties in with the 'Invented Spelling' sheet I sent home before school.
- Math: Our math curriculum teaches the concepts in a spiral. We touch on the topics through the whole year rather than focusing one month on one topic. This way the kids can practice all year and hopefully commit the skills to their long term memory. We have started exploring the numbers this week. We looked at numbers 1, 2, and 3 this week. We have also worked on sorting, graphing, and patterning. We discussed the term 'attribute' with sorting and we discovered there are many ways in which we can sort items. We also enjoyed playing math games for math centers this week. Thanks for the donations!
- Science: We have continued our study of the sky. We had a great opportunity to observe the sky and notice that the moon is out during the daytime too! We have continued our investigation of clouds. We read the book Little Cloud by Eric Carle. We have also started our discussion of light.
- Social Studies: We are continuing to learn about being in school and what it means to be in Kindergarten. We are learning about making friends, sharing, waiting our turn, and following the rules. All of these skills are important and necessary at the start of school and they are great life-long skills that the children are learning.