

# Howsam's Happenings- Room

## 117



Wow, two quarters have gone by and now we are heading to the third quarter of school. I have been really getting to know the children and appreciate the opportunity to work with each of them on a daily basis.



## Environmental

We have a horticulturist within our classroom; Mrs. Kirn that continues to teach the students about nature, growing an organic garden & plants, make things that are ecosystem friendly, and grow plants in different ways. This past quarter, she has shown us how to make centerpieces from cut flowers, pick/harvest marigold seeds, made lavender lemon salve, made cranberry garland for birds, and cheerios & paper roll bird feeders which the students hung up outside. Our next projects will be making soap, planting marigold seeds, making a sedum planter, and making a spring vegetable garden.

## Themes:

Each week we concentrate on various lessons and activities that pertain to a common theme. Theme based activities will include language acquisition, art projects, story time, drama time, and cooking. The main goal for all our children is for them to become more independent. Each day the children will practice self-help, socialization, functional math, reading, science, social studies, and work skills.

We worked on theme units dealing with Veteran's day, Traditions: November/December holidays-Giving Thanks /Manners, different winter aspects, Colonial Days – colonist, Indians, their ways of living compare to modern day, and Hygiene. Currently, we are working on How Times have changed (past/present), Black History, the 100th Day of School, Positional Directions/Maps, Regions, and Forces of Energy: light and sound. **Additionally**, the students are working on different skills within the classroom: responsibility, fairness, empathy, kindness, caring, respect, honesty, cooperation, integrity, and perseverance.

## Shout



This 2019-2020 school year has started their first Garden club with the fifth graders and some students from room 117 with Ms. Kirn. The students have enjoyed their first class; the students learned how to make a cranberry & nut garland. Students also learned about how birds and squirrels need our help in surviving the winter months with no food; students were delight to hang up their garlands. They are looking forward to seeing the animals eat their treat!.

## TerraCycle:



We are still collecting Recyclables to earn MONEY for the school to use. We are collecting during the students' lunchtimes, but we need to be collecting from home too. Thank You!!!! This year, we bought some games and activities for the students to use within the classroom.

## Classroom Events:

During this quarter to the end of the school year; the students have a few additional programs added to our weekly school day schedule:

**\*Art Class: Art Smock-** We just finished with 10 weeks of art class with the company Go Get Your Smock. The students went with their grade level peers to learn about different artists and then try making an art piece from that artist. During our third distributions of report cards; Mrs. Diana, the Art teacher is having a small art show to display all of the student's artwork for parent to look at – See you there!

**\*Red Kite Workshop Program with Emily:** The students will be working with Emily for 8 weeks 1 day a week (Thursday or Friday) to develop their skills for pretending – this is an extended program from the classroom "Drama" time. The program is going to start in April, the dates haven't been set yet, when it's established a quick note will be sent home – Practice pretending!

**\*Special Olympics:** Events are being held from May 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, but our students will be attending their competitions on May 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> only. Opening Ceremonies will be held on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Soldier's Field. The events the students will compete within are the 50/100 meter races, long jump, and tennis/softball throw events at Dunbar Park on 31<sup>st</sup> & Indiana. Parents are invited to attend this event and will be notified for the days their child will be within certain events.

**\*Buddy Baseball:** Events are being held from March through to June 10<sup>th</sup>, students will be competing on several Wednesdays starting March 29<sup>th</sup>. One of the school we are playing against is Reinberg – Go Solomon Go! Parents are invited to attend our competitions and will be notified for the Wednesdays we will be competing. Also, our school has decided to host one of the competitions too.



## Important Dates:

\* February 21<sup>st</sup> – Winter Festival –our 1<sup>st</sup>

\* March 6<sup>th</sup> – 25 week progress reports

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- \* March 20<sup>th</sup> – Solomon Soirée: 6-10 pm
- \* April 6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> – Spring Break
- \* April 17<sup>th</sup> – No School: Improvement Day
- \* April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Report Card Pick-(parents come)
- \* April 25<sup>th</sup> – School Musical Performance
- \* April 13<sup>th</sup> – No School – School Improvement
- \* April 18<sup>th</sup> – Report Card Pick-(parents come)
- \* April 30<sup>th</sup> – Special Olympics Opening Ceremony @  
Soldier field
- \* May 2<sup>nd</sup> – School Play: Frozen
- \* May 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> – Special Olympic Games @  
Dunbar pk

Have any questions or concerns, please feel free to give me a call at school or email me at my school email.

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- Ms. Howsam