

Howsam's Room



Special Olympics

The Chicago Park District has partnered with the Special Olympics to provide intramural skills training each month. We have started our Floor Hockey practices; students are learning how to use a stick to push a cloth "donut" puck across the floor. We will be starting the practice skills for Basketball on November 30 & December 14; students can't wait to start practicing.

Social Emotional Learning

The students have several opportunities within different programs to help them deal with their social emotional learning to help them deal with their school year. The programs that are being provided is the school wide "Second Step" curriculum, "Start with Heart" videos, workbook games, & worksheets dealing with emotions, and a quick pictorial of "feeling" faces to express their start of the day and if something needs to be addressed.



Important Dates:

November 8th – No School /General Election
November 21st – Report Card Conferences
November 24-25th – Thanksgiving Holiday
December 22nd – End of the 2nd Quarter
December 23rd – January 6th – Winter Break
January 16th – No School M. L. King Day

Music Therapy:

On Fridays, our class has started to have music therapy with Ms. Brooke through the Special Children's Charities program. The students are loving her many different instruments that they get to explore through her teaching them songs and learning different social skills within each session. We are continuing to have Ms. Brooke come for the next two months until winter break. Keep singing, Brooke!!!

Fantastic!

Themes:

The students have been working hard on their academics this school year to learn about school rules, state rules and laws, leaders within schools, voting, and meeting their IEP goals. This quarter the students learned about what the bill of rights contains, our legal rights and responsibilities for living in the United States, and being an American. Then we learned about different science experiments; why have them, how to conduct them, and what can be used from them within the science industry; while conducting a few science experiments ourselves. Next quarter the student will be learning about the relationship between the sun and the earth. Then will learn about different traditions from around the world that occurs in the last few months of the year; while continuing to work on their IEP goals.

Sensory Garden:

The class has a partnership with a "great" horticulturist; Mrs. Kirn that is our school gardener too. This quarter the students have participated within the sensory garden by identifying, picking, & washing herbs that was made into a homemade dip for vegetables. We also planted the new plants by the lunchroom, cut plants in the flower beds before Fall for future projects, and dug holes to put in flower bulbs for next Spring. Next, we are going to make bird feeders and make homemade "lavender" soap from the plants harvested from the sensory garden.

Personal Thought:

Every day, I am truly looking forward to working with your child each day. At least once a day, a student makes me laugh with their reactions, personal thoughts or comments. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to give me a call at school 773-534-5226 or email me at my school email. lehowsam@cps.edu