

BCSKINDERGARTEN

September 12, 2014



Here is a picture of students with their *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you see?* story retell hats.

Back to School Night Review

By Dorothy Sears

So much information...so little time.

First of all, I want to thank all of you for coming to Back to School Night! It was nice to finally have a chance to talk to some of you at a time other than just pick-up and drop-off. We have several families with siblings at our school which meant some families had to bounce back and forth between presentations or were unable to make it. Due to the fact that we can't all be in more than one place at one time I thought I would

take this opportunity to review the important things from my Back to School Night presentation.

Snack time

Each day we have a snack and recess. Students are asked to bring their own snack for this time to help them refuel and have energy to learn. We ask that the snacks be light and healthy. Students are not permitted to share snacks due to allergies and other dietary restrictions. I also realize that eating before 11:25 can be difficult, but

please try your best to have your child eat their lunch before school starts since students should be eating something light at recess and then having time to play.

On any really hot days, please feel free to have your child take out their snack bag and stand with it on their stars to be ready to bring it in the classroom.

Class Expectations

Our class has six main classroom rules. Each rule has a picture and a name

1. Respect the classroom and each other.
2. Follow the classroom rules
3. Use good manners
4. Do their best
5. Have a positive attitude!

If each student comes to school ready to learn and ready to have a good day, I know we will have a great year!

Assessments and Meetings

Report cards come out once every trimester. In addition to report cards each student will receive Focused Learning Goals (FLGs) which will be unique to every child. We will have parent-teacher conferences on Tuesday, October 7th and Wednesday, October 15th. I will email you the Google Doc sign up sheet on Tuesday, September 16th at 4:15 p.m. Please be on the lookout for it and sign up using a laptop. If you need a different time than the ones I've listed, please contact me and I'll see if we can find a different time to meet. I'm looking forward to meeting with you all!

FLG Parent Information Night

On Tuesday, September 30th, the school will be holding an information meeting for parents regarding the purpose of FLGs and how they can be used effectively. This meeting will start at 7pm. If you are wondering about FLGs and would like to

know more about them and how they are used, I highly encourage you to attend this event.

Parent Responsibilities

Please stay informed by reading through all the newsletters that come home from school. I will always try to recap what we are doing in class and give notices for upcoming events.

When visiting the school or dropping something off, please make sure to sign in with the office first. You will need to get a visitor's badge if you are on campus during school hours.

Last but not least, please reinforce good manners and the six character pillars at home. This will help a great deal here at school.

Extras

I just have a few extra things to add. In terms of communication, I will do my very best to respond within 24 hours to any email I receive during the school week. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I will be also be sending out important information through these weekly newsletters.

We read Chicka Chicka Boom Book and students made a tree and put on the sticker letters of their name. Then they counted how many letters are in their name and wrote the number.



Please return your Thursday Blue Folders on Friday mornings. Please have your child take it out of their bags and hold it in their hands ready to be turned in when we walk inside.

In conclusion, thank you so much for a wonderful start to the school year! I am truly enjoying teaching your children.

What we've been working on the last two weeks:

Language Arts

This week in Language Arts, we have been continuing to work on learning our capital letters through our Handwriting Without Tears program. With the handwriting letters we are progressively adding more pieces that can be a little harder to do, such as diagonal lines and small curves within the letters. We have also been working on learning our color words through a variety of activities involving read alouds, choral reading, comprehension questions and creative art. During our daily Morning Message, we have been focusing on finding/identifying punctuation marks and capital letters. Students are also learning how to retell stories and sequence them. Your child made a Brown Bear, Brown Bear hat sequencing the story that the whole class read. Students have started to learn, spell and recognize the sight words "see" through song and color books.

Math

In Math, we are working on counting and what the different numbers represent. We want to develop each child's number sense so when they see a number they have a picture in their head of what quantity that number represents. We are working on learning to write the numbers correctly as well and reinforcing these skills through Calendar time. We are also starting to work on graphing and discussing how to read a bar graph during our daily calendar routine.

Social Studies

In Social Studies, we continue to work on reinforcing the classroom rules and expectations as well as practicing routines in the classroom. Setting up good routines from the beginning of the year and practicing them quite a bit right now will help us have a successful year moving forward. Students take a while to learn new habits and our day moves quickly so I want to make sure we are practicing these skills consistently.



Students are learning presentation skills (standing to the side, pointing, and speaking in a loud voice) Above picture: Katie is presenting in Mandarin ("Hi! My name is Katie")

Dates to remember:

Banana Seed Book Fair:
September 15 - 19th

"No Bully" Foundational Training: September 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Fall Family Dinner:
September 19th at 5:00-7:30 pm (I will see you there!)

"No Bully" Program Parent Workshop on September 30th from 6:30-8:00 pm

FLG Parent Info Night:
September 30th at 7pm