



# Kindergarten News

**Mrs. Mooney's Room  
September 2018**

Welcome to kindergarten! I hope you had a terrific summer and are excited about the upcoming school year! Your child is special to you, and to us, and Ms. Choate and I hope to form a partnership with you as the year progresses.

At least once per month you will be receiving this newsletter designed to give you information about what we are doing in school and give you ideas of activities you can do at home with your child. I will highlight some activities and key ideas of the "Tools of the Mind" curriculum to give you a picture of a day in the life of your kindergartner. Studies show that the best foundation for children is to use play as the activity to 'spark' learning. When you ask your children what they did in school, their answer will most likely be 'I played', and they will be absolutely right as much of what they learn in September will happen through games and play. A part of this newsletter, titled "What Are We Doing in School?" (below) will tell you what theme the class is working on and what your child is learning through play.

## What Are We Doing In School ?

**Theme:** Fairy Tales - Little Red Riding Hood and The Three Little Pigs

**What's happening in centers?** We are acting out the fairy tales we read to learn about story sequence and characters. We are practicing taking turns and changing roles. We are learning to use the comprehension strategies we have learned to act out our roles.

**What Reading & Writing Skills are being practiced?** We practice visualizing or making a picture of the story in our minds. We are learning to think about character empathy or how the characters in the story feel. We also talk about story grammar or the beginning, middle and end of the story. We write plans before we play and write about the story grammar. As the students do all this writing they will be learning about letters and sounds.

**What Math Skills are being practiced?** We are practicing number recognition, counting and estimation. Skills are being practiced through hands-on games and exploration.

## **Extensions At Home:**

- Draw and write about your favorite part of a story.
- Practice counting how many spoons, forks, etc you need for dinner.
- Get into the counting habit! When you take a walk, try hopping, skipping, jumping, or sidestepping a certain number of times.

## **Additional Information:**

Please send your child in on Tuesday, September 4th with a photo and or small souvenir that reminds them of their summer vacation. You may label the items to help them remember. We will use these items as props to get to know each other. Any items sent into school will be returned. Thank you in advance for your help.

## **-Classroom Wish List:**

*(Donations are on a voluntary basis - thank you in advance for your generosity!)*

- hand sanitizer and seasonal stickers