

The Wednesday word

September 12, 1973

Riverside Kindergarten News

Tonight's the night!

tonight's the night to stop by room 3 at 7:00 if you would like to hear an explanation of our kindergarten program here at Riverside. Mrs. Masley, Mrs. Brenton and myself will all be here and four students will be coming from the first grade to help us demonstrate our DISTAR lessons. if you need to bring younger children with you that's fine. we hope to keep the program to about one hour. your questions will be appreciated

Capital letters?

you might have noticed that there are very few capital letters in the Wednesday word. the reason for this is that we do not use any capital letters in the beginning distar alphabet.

We need wood and nails

you may have heard that our workbench is already getting a lot of use. to keep using it we will continue to need small wood scraps. Please, if you have wood scraps, drop them off at room 3. Our budding carpenters will appreciate it. we also need small nails.

a birthday

tina gess, of the morning class, celebrated her 5th birthday yesterday. Mrs. Gess brought in some cupcakes and we had a nice party. happy birthday tina!

i encourage birthday parties in school. the kids love them and look forward to them. i do too.

a birthday party usually consist of a cupcake or cookies, a napkin, and usually something like kool aid, pop, or canned juice to drink. they are held at the end of our lessons for the day. That is 10:45 for the morning class and 2:45 for the afternoon class. please call me a couple of days before you would like to come in.

So much stuff!

have you been noticing how many things there are to bring home from school each day? a lot of things must get dropped and lost. that's why i think kindergarteners should have a plastic bag with a handle to cart things home from school in. fancy bags can be gotten from K-mart for about 70 cents. These bags will be especially important when the weather turns cold and children are bringing mittens, boots, scarves etc. 😊

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to the park!?

we are planning to take a walk this Friday down to Veterans park to play on the toys there and look at the river. notes about this trip are coming home today for you to sign and return by Friday. please dress your child warmly, especially Friday morning. if it is too cold, or rainy, we won't be able to go. we will need some cupcakes and a drink to refresh ourselves before the walk back.

If you could contribute any food or drink please send in a note with your child. if it gets too cold i guess we'll have to have a party in school.

write your name

children need to know how to write their name in kindergarten so they can identify all the things they do. I'm trying to teach everyone -- but you can help too. when your child learns how, praise him or her a lot!

a good program

i was extremely pleased at the large turnout of parents at our kindergarten parent orientation last Wednesday evening. i felt that the program was very successful and i thank you for all the kind comments i recieved. i would very much like to thank Mrs Hasley for coming in. we missed Mrs. Brenton, who was sick. the stars of our show were the four first graders who demonstrated what they learned last year in kindergarten. a big thank you to Kevin Murray, Michelle (and Cheryl) Hage, Greg Milliken, and Holly Hilliard.

For parents who couldn't make it last Wednesday i have copies of the information which made up the program. please send in a note and get a copy if you are interested.

happy birthday!

David Collette turns 5 today. he is having a party in the afternoon class. happy birthday David!



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Riverside's Kindergarten News

Sounds test chart!

So far this year we have mastered three sounds. When we learn enough sounds we will learn how to put them together and read.

We've learned m, a, and s (ē comes tomorrow). We don't call them by the letter names—we learn them as sounds. For instance

m as in man
a as in apple
s as in saw

Coming home with today's Wednesday word is a sounds test chart. It contains all the sounds that will be learned in both Kindergarten and first grade. Beside the sound is a word which tells you how the sound is pronounced.

I'm sending these home so you can help make sure your child's learning how to read. Put the chart in a very visible place—like the refrigerator door or a bedroom door. Then point to the sounds and ask your child to say it. If he or she misses one, help them practice. It will be a world of good and will help to connect home with school in the children's minds. Thanks.

A wonderful day

We had a great time playing and having a picnic at the park last Friday. Thank goodness all you parents remembered to dress your children warmly. I want to express my very real gratitude to all the mothers who helped out. Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Kurtansky and Mrs. Knisley walked with us in the morning and Mrs. Cousino, Mrs. Nolan, Mrs. Knezevich, Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Grey and Mrs. Murray volunteered delicious refreshments. We had so much we couldn't accept it all. In the afternoon Mrs. Collette, Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Gowman came with us and Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Hilliard, Mrs. Stockard, Mrs. Tolbert, Mrs. Larkins, and Mrs. Roberty said they would send in refreshments. By the way, whose gallon thermos with a red top do I have?

Please, don't send it to me

Sometimes in the weekly reader (and in other things) there are ads for things that say "take your money in to your teacher." But, that isn't the way we work it. If you wish to buy something from one of these handouts please send your money directly to the company. 😊

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october 3, 1973

Thank you!

i am extremely happy to see so much positive response to the suggestions which have come home in "the wednesday word."

for instance, over half of my students now have plastic bags with handles to carry things home in. it helps them so much.

also, i hear that almost every body has a "sounds test chart" stuck up in some obvious place. i can see a big difference already in some childrens performance because their parents have helped them practice. if for any reason you would like one or two more of these sounds charts just ask me. i've got a million.

fish pond?

the room #3 fish pond has been set up. it works like this: a magnet is tied to the end of the string (which is tied to a fishing pole). small paper "fish" are put into the "pond" with a paper clip stuck to their tail. when the magnet touches the paper clip the fish can be pulled out of the pond. but

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there is a catch. to keep the fish you have to read the sound or word that is written on it. before keeping the fish the paper clip must be taken off and put in a shoe box by the pond. if your child brings home paper clips please remind them to leave them at school. also, ask them to read their fish to you - then tell them how smart they are.

remember show'n'tell

the first twenty minutes or so of every friday is devoted to show'n'tell. the more people who bring things the better it is. show'n'tell is looked forward to by all.

Mrs billmire returns

mrs billmire (our principal) returned to riverside on monday after a period of re-cooperation following an operation. she came to kindergarten and said hello to everyone. she saw david sharpe's birthday party.

happy birthday david!

david sharpe turned 5 on monday. his mother brought in the fanciest cupcakes we ever saw.



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fire drills

Kindergarten students are getting pretty good at fire drills. on monday, for the first time, we were not the last ones out of the building. we've learned that it is important to evacuate quickly but in a very orderly way. on monday a fireman drove up in his fire truck to make sure we were doing a good job. afterwards everyone who promised they would never play with matches got three "cool it" stickers to keep.

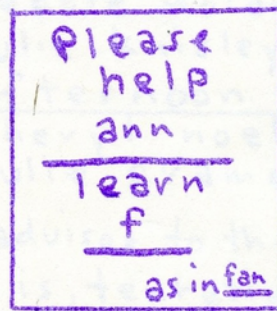
seeds!

many plants produce their seeds in the fall. so, this friday, we are going to begin a study of seeds. we will learn what they are, how they travel, how they get planted, what happens when they start to grow, and what they need to grow big and strong. we would like your help collecting seeds. they are everywhere - if you look. seeds may come from your yard, a cupboard, a field,

or a refrigerator. if you see some extra seeds of any kind please send them in Friday

"please help" sheets

our sounds are the building blocks of reading. if i ever notice that a child does not know a sound i fill out a "please help" sheet and send it home. it looks like this



one minute
of practice
can make
a world
of
difference

happy birthday julie!

julie knisley turned 5 on monday and had her party in school. we ate some tasty snoopy and smiling face cookies. thank you mrs. knisley.

tooth news?

tooth news usually begins later in the year when people start turning 6. but already debbie nolan, sherrie dodge, and norman myers (in the morning class) have lost a tooth. in the P.M. class janice gowman, ricky roberts, paula austin, teddy roberty, susan yentz, danny carroll and sandy edwards have lost at least one. 😊

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Thanks for the seeds!

thanks to your generosity we now have a whole table covered with different kinds of seeds. we have fruit seeds, vegetable seeds, nuts, weed seeds and flower seeds.

last friday we did an experiment to prove that seeds have 3 parts 1) a baby plant 2) food for the baby plant 3) a hard outside shell or cover.

each student got a well soaked lima bean and a magnifying glass. we took off the seed cover, then we split the seed in half, then we found and examined the baby plant.

on monday we saw a film about how seeds sprout up through the ground.

Dumpkins

also on friday everyone made a pumpkin to put on our new pumpkin bulletin board. for weeks already everyone has been telling me what they will be for Halloween. advance notice - our halloween party will be wednesday oct. 31 BOO!

student advisory council

elections were held last week for 2 representatives from each room to the riverside student advisory council. the function of this council will become clearer as we go along. our kindergarten representatives are:

- morning class
- 1) debbie nolan
 - 2) julie knisley
- afternoon class
- 1) cheryl noel
 - 2) julie cramer

the advisor to the student council is, tentatively, yours truly mr. ream. i will keep you informed of its deliberation. (no kickbacks or wiretaps please.)

welcome renée!

here is a warm welcome to our bright new p.m. student renée moyer - who came to us from christiency.

big week for birthdays

since the last wednesday word we've had 3 really excellent birthday parties. congratulations to julie cramer, dennis knezevich, and renée moyer.



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conferences

the first round of parent-teacher conferences for this school year will be held tomorrow (thursday). invitations have already gone home to the parents i would like to see.

i was very sorry to see that our conference days have been cut this year from 3 or 4 days to only 2. therefore i am, with regret, scheduling only 15 minutes for each conference. i will try to hold to the schedule so that i don't end up making some parents wait long periods in the hall.

let's try to make these conferences as useful as we can. i'm sure we can accomplish a lot of communication if we focus right in on your child and her or his relationship with school.

happy birthday cheryl!

cheryl noel reached the ripe old age of 5 last friday and had a party in room 3. with apple cider. happy birthday cheryl!

we still love you mrs. brenton

mrs brenton's birthday was last friday too but we forgot to give a party for her. how terrible! i hope someday you will forgive us mrs. brenton.

how do seeds move?

last week we learned how seeds can move from one place to grow in another. they move in the wind, in water, and by tumbling or exploding. also they can be planted by people or hitchhike around on animals. we had fun watching a film and then blowing thistle seeds all around the room.

i need some helpers

i'm actively searching these days for a few jr. high. or high school people to help in the kindergarten either in the morning or afternoon. who do you know who loves kids and will volunteer?

halloween party!



next wednesday is the day of the halloween party. don't wear costumes to school but be sure to bring them (in a bag)--so we can go into all the rooms and scare everybody!

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October 31, 1973 Boo!

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Witchee-poo

't was a scary day tuesday in the kindergarten. we were learning in our groups and minding our own business when the cry went up "a witch", "a witch".

and there she was, black robes and a tall black hat, a gnarled broom handle and a glowing green face. some kids were really scared - but others seemed to know her from somewhere.

witchee-poo carefully opened a big white box and produced some big super-delicious pumpkin cookies. as we sat in a circle and ate the cookies she explained the safety rules of halloween. 1) take off (or lift) your mask before crossing the street 2) let your parents check your candy before eating any 3) obey traffic signals.

witchee-poo went looking for a child with green freckles to take home with her but couldn't find any. actually she was much prettier this year than last. even the wart on her nose is gone. she says she wants to win a beauty contest.

a very busy week

open house, parent-teacher conferences, and an inservice training day all in one week. whew!

it was great that so many people came to open house. i hope you enjoyed it. i love to be in the kindergarten room during open house because it is a room where you don't have to just look - you can do things.

i am always amazed at how much i learn through the friendly conversations on conference day. i know that i have a bunch of parents who really care about their children's learning and emotional well being.

happy birthday!

mrs. dietrich threw a fine birthday party for lori last wednesday. she is 5 now. happy birthday lori!

helpers?

i think i have 3 new helpers from jr. high school. they are sherrie collette, gina ciacelli, and dawn tolbert. i hope they stick with it.

