



## January 14, 2021: PreK Weekly Newsletter

This Week's Theme: Shapes

### Notes:

- No school on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

### Reminders:

- When thinking about winter gear for outdoor play, please send in **waterproof mittens** and **tall waterproof** boots for the snow (**mittens** are usually easier for independent self-help success 😊). Thank you!
- Rest mats will come home every weekend. Please wash and send back in.
- Please send in an extra mask for students to change if necessary. 😊
- If your child's towel comes home, please wash and return. Thank you!
- Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Jones with any questions or concerns: [sjones@mphschool.org](mailto:sjones@mphschool.org)

### Humanities Learning:

- **Literacy Development:**
  - The children participate in activities such as songs, rhymes, and finger plays. The PreK program shares in a varied exposure to letter formation, letter sounds, and spoken word games to enhance early literacy skills.
- **Handwriting Without Tears (HWT):**
  - My First School Book (First year students): practice writing the capital letter **U** and color an **umbrella**
  - Kick Start Kindergarten Book (Second year students): review writing the capital letters **X** and **Y**
    - The Lower School uses the Handwriting Without Tears approach developed by Occupational Therapist Jan Olsen. "This curriculum draws from years of innovation and research to provide developmentally appropriate, multi-sensory strategies for early writing. The program follows research of how children learn best and includes materials that address all styles of learning."
- **Literacy:** Picture Books:
  - *Martin's Dream*
  - *Bear in a Square*
  - *Poppleton in Winter*
- **Social Studies:** Discuss Martin Luther King, Jr. and work on a World Peace writing/craft project (I can make the world better by...")

- **Rhyming Sounds Phonemic Awareness:** Match-A-Sound! Game – students practice matching objects to the words they rhyme with (bee, hat, sled)

### **Math and Science Learning:**

- **Calendar Math:** discovering and extending the ABC pattern (orange, green, purple... and circle, triangle, rectangle...)
  - Daily Math lessons and activities to build number sense using manipulatives, music, and rhymes to teach counting, one-to-one correspondence, comparisons, spatial awareness, patterning, sequencing, matching, sorting, problem solving, and Pre-K geometry skills. Children play and explore to test their ideas so that math is real and meaningful. They become familiar with the days of the week and the current month by singing fun songs.
- **One-to-One Correspondence:** children stamp a bingo marker dot in each square on graph paper

### **Play and Social Skills Development:**

- **Mystery Share** – PreK friends will take turns choosing an item from home, writing/dictating three clues, bringing it in to school to share with the class, and keeping it a mystery inside their bag (you may use a bag from home or their backpack). The class will listen to the clues and try to guess what it is! Students begin developing the ability to speak in a clear voice, organize thoughts, and use complete sentences. They also practice their inquiry, questioning, and listening skills.

# PreK Candids

