



## Kindergarten Newsletter January 4 - January 8, 2016

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a very enjoyable and relaxed Winter Break.

Weather Related School Closure: As you know from my earlier email, there will be no school tomorrow due to the inclement weather. Watch for emails and/or text message notifications from Little Acorn and from our Remind.com accounts. *The Remind.com number for Little Acorn is 307-459-3175, class code lapsk20. For Kindergarten Fireflies, the number is 503-342-8657, class code @473363.* The school's voicemail message will also give updates on any closures/cancellations. Remember, it is our school policy to close whenever Vancouver School District declares a 2 Hour Late Start or is Closed. The safety of our students and their families is our number 1 priority.

Winter Attire: Please send your kindergartner to school with coats and footwear appropriate for the weather. Even hats and gloves/mittens are needed on some days as this snowy Sunday is showing us! As long as it is not too cold and there is not too much of a downpour, we go outside. It is important for our brains and our bodies to get some fresh air and be active,

Recap of the Week: Before the Winter Break we had lots of fun making surprises for our families, working on holiday math and comparing/contrasting the *Gingerbread Boy, Gingerbread Baby and Gingerbread Friends* books.

Morning Work: Starting this week, our class will begin the day focused on literacy. For the kindergarten students, this means that three days will be doing writer's workshop. This consists of 1) continuing a story from a prompt set by the teacher; 2) Write a "rough draft" of a story they come up with themselves; 3) Illustrate a typed (by teacher) "final copy" of that story. The remaining days will be focused on sight word work.

Our Firefly students will work on similar activities, but at their level. They will also complete a story prompt and do some sight word work.

As a result, being at school and **ready to work at 9 o'clock** is very important.

Math: We will begin the week working on addition. We will roll dice to find numbers to add, and then record the corresponding number sentence. We will also match numbers to 10's frames. We finish the week with our writing numbers assessment for January.

Literacy: We continue with reading groups. It is exciting to see our kindergarten students learning to sound out words and our Fireflies gain confidence in knowing the sounds the letters make.

Writing: As I mentioned above, writing will be part of our morning work. We will write about some of the things we did on Winter Break. We will focus on sounding out the words as much as we can in order to help students match sounds they are saying with words they are writing. At this stage we are not worried about the correct spelling of words. It is much more important that students gain confidence in writing their stories with "guess and go" spelling, rather than being held up by the fear of making a mistake.

Social Studies, Art & Science: We are going to be learning about snow and ice. We will observe how things melt and draw and label our observations. We will read the stories "Peter and the Snowy Day" and "The Mitten." For some fun, we are going to be making snowflakes with q-tips.

Fundraisers:

- Box Tops for Education,
- Fred Meyer (you can support our school by going to <https://www.fredmeyer.com/topic/community-rewards-4> and adding Little Acorn to your rewards account),
- Scholastic Book Orders (<http://www.scholastic.com/> our school code is GX4F3),
- Usborne Books eFair (<https://n3313.myuban.com/634160>).
- School t-shirts are currently on sale. Children's sizes \$10, Adult sizes \$15. See Director Katie in the office to place your orders.

Sickness: If your child is sick, please call the school office, or you can send me an email or a text so we can keep track of illnesses.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns. Send a text, give me a call, or you can email. I am here to help you and your child have a great kindergarten year!

Thank you for sharing your child with us,  
Teacher Sinead & Teacher Caroline

Contact Info:

Email: [teachersineadbrooks@gmail.com](mailto:teachersineadbrooks@gmail.com)

Wish List:

Seasonal stickers for decorating end-of-year portfolios

Laminating sheets (8.5" x 11")

Cardstock in multiple colors (8.5" x 11") for our end-of-year portfolio pages

Colored rubber bands & geo-boards



Dates to remember:

January:

4<sup>th</sup> Back to School; Tuition Due

10<sup>th</sup> Tuition Grace Period ends

18<sup>th</sup> Martin Luther King Day - No School

21<sup>st</sup> Kindred Singing

25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> 2016-2017 Classroom Preview

Tuition Prices 2015-2016 School Year

2 days a week \$190.00 a month

3 days a week \$245.00 a month

4 days a week \$300.00 a month

5 days a week \$355.00 a month

Kindergarten \$405 a month