

Dear Families,

It's been a busy first, full week in Kindergarten and here are some of the hi-lights:

This week we have spent some time learning each other's names and learning the letters in our name—this is an important part of Kindergarten! We have two new bulletin boards. One is outside our classroom door. The kids wrote their names on cardstock, decorated it with crayon and water colored it in. The other bulletin board is inside the classroom. The kids had a chance to use dots to decorate the first letter of their name.

We also made our first class book. I took pictures of the kids and turned it into a class book. I am having the book Xeroxed and will send it home to you so you can see all our beautiful faces and learn our names.

We kicked our writing this week. We looked at all different types of writing and made a web of all the things we noticed that writer's do in books (for example, write about something they love). We also kicked off math and we spent some time exploring unifix cubes and snap cubes.

We also worked on our hopes and dreams. We read the book *Elephant's Can't Dance* by Mo Willems and talked about optimism and that optimism means you want to try to do something you can't. The kids had a chance to think about something they want to do in Kindergarten that they can't. They drew a picture of their hope and dream and we will hang them up this week.

Reminders:

- I ask that when you get to school with your child that you have them use the bathroom BEFORE our Morning Meeting Starts. I would love all children to be present at our meeting time and that it not be interrupted. It is a special community bonding time. And while you are at the bathroom, please make sure your child gets a sip of water from the water fountain
- If you want to leave me a message, you can always leave me a printed note which you can hang on the wall next to our door in the classroom that says "Notes for Amy" or send me an email at apellet@schools.nyc.gov. I will check my messages once a day (at 10:45) but if it's an emergency, please call the school and speak to Caren, our Parent Coordinator so I can be sure to receive it
- Please no toys from home. This is to avoid that heartbreak that may happen if a toy is lost or misplaced

- Please do not leave scooters in the hallway. If you ride a scooter to school, please take it back home with you
- We have a few adults in the classroom that help us out. We have the fabulous Ana Maria. She is a School Aide and she will be with us in the mornings. In October, Susan, our student teacher from Hunter, will be back and she will be joining us until the end of December. You might have met her during the first few days of school. She is amazing
- There will be many opportunities to come help out and spend time in the classroom this year. I will be sure to let you know when those times are and you can also let me know what you are interested in doing, or things you think might be enriching to the class. For example, if you have a connection to a museum
- Please make sure your child gives me a handshake or hug before he/she leaves at dismissal time. That way, I know who your child is being released to and everyone can be kept safe
- We need a parent volunteer to help with terracycling and bringing plastic bags to the supermarket so we can recycle them. Any takers???? Please let me know.

Here's to a wonderful year and to getting to know you all better!

Love, Amy