



Dear Families,

I have enjoyed working with your children this school year. The children continue to be introduced to the twenty-six alphabet letters, letter sounds, recognition of letters, name recognition, rhyming, numbers (0-20), number recognition, counting (one-to-one and rote), patterning, sorting (by shape, color, and size), naming / recognizing / pointing to shapes (triangle, circle, oval, square, rectangle, heart, star, and diamond), naming / recognizing / pointing to colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, brown, black, pink, grey, and white), practicing coloring / writing / cutting skills, and recognizing & writing first names in block print style. We also continue pre-readiness skills practice across the curriculum areas (Math, Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Reading, Writing, Fine Motor, Gross Motor, Social-Emotional, and Self Help).

Students take part in a consistent daily routine: putting coat & backpack away in cubby, put class folder on back two tables, Calendar and Weather Time, Table or Rug Activity, Center Time, Table or Rug Activity, Quiet Rest Time, Snack, Quiet Reading Time, Recess, put folder in backpack, put coat & backpack on, walk to bus or family car. The children also participate in Social Skills with Miss Spencer, Speech Therapy with Ms. Shumaker, Physical Therapy with Mr. Smith, Occupational Therapy with Mrs. Clark or Mrs. Zielinski, and Music & Library with Mr. Blumenstock.

The Pre-K / ECSE Spring Parent - Child Activity Day is set for March 12<sup>th</sup>. Come enjoy making a craft, eating a yummy snack, and playing games! Our Spring Field Trip is coming up in April. We will be going to the Children's Discovery Museum and Eastland Mall Food Court in Bloomington / Normal, IL. Come for a day of fun and excitement! The end of the school year is quickly approaching. Our last day of school will be May 28<sup>th</sup> (if we have no more snow days).

Each child has a purple class folder that he or she is responsible for bringing to school and taking home daily. I continue to send home weekly newsletters, book bags, family home projects, student work, and important notes in the children's folders. Mrs. Boles and I check the children's folders daily for notes from families. I am available to talk with you if you have any questions or concerns from 11:00 - 11:30 a.m. or 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. The school phone number is (815) 945-2971 and my email is [jmcgraw@prairiecentral.org](mailto:jmcgraw@prairiecentral.org). If you would like to meet with me in person or make a visit to the classroom to volunteer, please set up a time with me in advance.

Just a reminder: The Morning class meets Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. The Afternoon class meets from 12:15 p.m. - 3:11 p.m.

Classroom rules: We use our polite manners, quiet inside voices, walking feet, hands and feet to selves, listening ears, and we do our best work. The classroom behavior chart is a pond placed on the front bulletin board. Each child has a frog with his or her name written on it. All the frogs will begin in the pond. If a child is not following directions, that child's frog will be moved to the grass (no sticker). If the behavior continues, the frog will move to the log (no sticker and lose five min. of Recess). Continued bad choices will result in the frog moving to the final spot, the cattails (no sticker, no Recess, and a note or phone call home). Each student also has an individual behavior chart to earn stickers (one per day). After earning five stickers, the kids can pick a fun prize from the class prize box.

Enjoy the rest of your school year! Miss McGraw

