



Warm Greetings from the O'Keeffe Class!

January has been a cold month and the children have had a lot of practice dressing in their coats, mittens and hats! In Practical Life our younger friends have been working with the dressing frames – snapping, buttoning, buckling and lacing. All the children have enjoyed new work such as soap grating and sorting Valentine objects. We also have introduced a folding board which helps the children learn how to fold shirts.

In Zoology, we took a Field Trip to the Central Florida Zoo. This was very exciting for the children because we learned about animal classifications, vertebrates and invertebrates. It was wonderful for the children to experience the animals and their habitats. Then they brought their knowledge back to the classroom. We even saw animals that we have learned about while studying the different continents, such as the Kookaburra bird from Australia.

In Culture, we are learning about South America. The children learned the names of different countries, the different languages that are spoken and the beautiful animals that live there, such as the llama, armadillo, jaguar, lizard, toucan and piranha. We also made animal booklets about these animals, rainforest collages and mobiles.

In Spanish, we complimented our study of South America by learning the Spanish name for some of the rainforest animals, such as Jaguar and Llama. We also talked about the Spanish speaking countries in South America.

In Language, the children have been very busy with metal inset work which has been wonderful handwriting practice. Our pre-kindergarteners continue to work with their blue boxes and reading series. Our primary friends have discovered rhyming words and we all have enjoyed reading poetry during our line time. Please share some of your favorite poems with us!

In Math our kindergarten friends are practicing their addition using the golden beads, while our younger friends are working with number recognition, the red and blue number rods, the spindle box and set baskets.

In History we celebrated Martin Luther King's birthday and George Washington's birthday. We learned about the importance of our great leaders by making mini books and talking about the characteristics of a peacemaker.

In Music our new instruments arrived and we are so excited to start using our bells, rhythm sticks, drum, xylophone and resonator bars. Thank you to all the parents who contributed as the children will now be able to practice their pitch and rhythm with the wonderful Musikgarten program songs and music.

Our Valentines celebration was a big success. Thank you to all the Dads and Moms who are so special to our hearts!

Kindergarten Pod Focus

Language pod: In language pod we are studying singular and plural words. What words need an -s, -es or even -evs? It can be tricky, but they are doing great.

Science Pod: In Science pod we have begun our study of Botany. We started with the parts of a leaf and leaf rubbing. We will continue to dive into the wonderful world of plants for the next couple of weeks.

Math Pod: Clocks, clock everywhere! We are working on time journals and learning to tell time. The children have their own clocks which they practice with daily.

Book Club: The kindergartners have been taking an exciting journey into the Arctic with the Magic School Bus. We have explored the different types of animals found in the Arctic such as caribou, sea lions, and polar bears. We are working on creating an Arctic story of our own! Stay tuned!

With Kindness

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