

October 2015

Dear Calico Families,

We have had a wonderful beginning to the school year! Thank you for helping your child adjust. We are familiar with how our classroom works and with all the independence we have now that we are Calico Cats. The children have done wonderful and I am very proud of them.

Each month we will be having school-wide dress up days. This month on the 30th, please encourage your child to dress up as their favorite <u>storybook</u> character (please save costumes such as, action figures, i.e. Superman, Power Rangers, Ninja Turtles, for home dress up). Your child may bring the book their character is from and we will read them during the morning. The more children that participate, the more fun we will have!

During our alphabet and numbers unit, we started focusing on a 'letter of the week'. Each week, until we have featured each letter of the alphabet, we will read a story, learn a song that goes along with the letter featured each week, and have letter of the week show and tell. We also make a 'word list' of words beginning with the featured letter to help the children begin to listen for the phonetic sound. We have started a 'word wall' using pictures cut from magazines. Your child may bring in one picture a week to hang on the wall that begins with the letter of the week (i.e. if the letter of the week is 'A,a', a picture of an apple, alligator, etc.). Available to the child (but not required) in our writing area will be papers for tracing of the featured letter. Each child has a writing journal with each letter featured with a word that begins with the letter (i.e. A,a - apple). They will have a word card available to look at with the picture on it and will draw in their writing journals. Have fun with your child finding objects in their world throughout the week that begin with the letter featured each week. We will also focus on one sight word each week. Check your calendar for the word and help reinforce learning in fun ways at home.

Remember our school-wide preschool t-shirt days. If your child needs a new t-shirt, Mrs. Carter has them available for purchase. An easy way to remember when our t-shirt days are, is to remember f-f (first Friday) and th-th (third Thursday). Our Fall Festival will be held Saturday, October 24th. Watch for more information coming. With the help of many volunteers, this is an exciting event for the children. School pictures are Oct. 27th & 28th. The Calico calendar has additional dates and information for your convenience.

Please feel free to speak to me about what is going on in the life of your child so that I can be the best teacher possible for each child.