

Chebeague Pre-K- Transitional K News – December 11, 2009

Our handwriting and letter sound efforts this week were "Aa". It is the one letter that we all share in our names. The upper case letters are done on chalkboards but you will see the lower case letter pages coming home. The letter sound page stays at school where they can reread it and watch the number of pages grow.

Monday's literacy circle was a reading of Sendak's big book "Chicken Soup with Rice". It has repeating text and rhyming and as we read through the months they were able to make predictions and chime in.

Thursday am a student from the 3-5 joined our class for an hour and the children were eager to do a work with him and have him read for them *The Drinking Gourd*. Interactions such as these are a special part of the relationships that grow at CIS.

The children still enjoy listening to Tchaikovsky and have asked for more ballet. I have no ballet training but I gathered up enough information and confidence to teach them a few ballet stretches and positions. We practiced ballet backs (sit tall, feel no spinal bumps), pointing and flexing our toes and after tucking legs up grabbing toes working to gradually straighten legs without letting your toes escape. We all benefited from the stretching and will do more as we had many toes "get away". We also did some free movement/freeze dancing to Swan Lake and when the music stopped did our best to freeze in first position.

Practical Life/Art

- New spooning transfer using Holiday beads
- Squeezing water with baster

Language

- Letter Aa
- Sorting letter fonts Aa & Bb
- Rhyming work - matching balloons to their rhyming bear

- S-m-t-a-f-p board game - draw image card, move to its beginning sound on the game board.

Sensorial

- Pattern blocks - pentagons, holiday tree

Math

- Nutcracker images to numeral matching
- Dreidel game - learning about half of quantity

Geography

- More discussion/image sharing from North America

History

- Hanukkah - history of and lighting of our menorah

Music/Movement

- 1st position/ballet
- Holiday concert songs - Sing of Peace, Twinkle, and Celebrate the Holidays.

Peace

- Our peace circle was an introduction to Hanukkah

Calendar updates:

Dec ?: Island Commons field trip - Postponed/not sure of new date

Dec 17: 6-7:15 Holiday Concert at the Hall

Dec 22: Pre-K - 5 holiday gift exchange at lunch

Dec 31: Blue Moon (second full moon in a month)

Upcoming holiday concert notes:

- Concert starts at 6pm
- Be at the hall by 5:45
- Pre-K students will initially sit together but can go sit with their family after we sing (we go first) so save them a seat.



Free dancing to Swan Lake



Working towards 100 "Wow this is a big board"



Freezing in 1st position, holding that invisible beach ball

*Thank you for sharing your children
Miss Nancy*

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