

Happy Friday Everyone!

What a wonderful Open House we had on Wednesday evening. This is the first time in my memory that all families were able to attend. The children did a terrific job sharing their school with families and friends and many of you got to speak with other parents. Some will even arrange play dates. That is terrific! The video streaming went off quite well and I received feedback from my own family who tuned in to share our experience. I hope that you were able to share the link with family, even though I didn't send it out until after



school on Wednesday. There is a link to "our show" on USTREAM.com.

<http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/2173028> will take you there. The taping started early so if you want to view it, move the slider to about 11 minutes in for our first arrivals. There was about a 20 second delay between the action and broadcast of the show, which was a bit confusing for some of our visitors.

By our informal conversations, we were able to briefly discuss how students are doing but we just



scratched the surface. Some folks may have concerns about "problem areas" that couldn't be covered in a group gathering. If you are one of those parents with special concerns that things are not going right, you can schedule an appointment with me before or after school. As an alternative, we could speak on the phone some evening. When I have concerns, I ask a specialist to do an informal observation and/or call parents to discuss it. Regularly scheduled parent/teacher conferences will be held October 21-23 and again in March.

Because of the great response to our gathering, I would like to add a couple more get-togethers this year. We almost always have one in the spring when the children share their hatching ducklings experience (*Fingers crossed on a successful hatch.*) Another evening gathering may be planned for the winter months as well.

You might think by the photos on these pages, that we are studying shells. That's not actually the case. We have amassed quite a collection of seashells through donations over the years. Several of the children have found them particularly interesting and spend their Choice time sorting and comparing and contrasting them. Little do they know this is all part of the math program. Even more surprising is how quickly the children have taken to being media stars. These children asked me to video them with my camera. All of the pictures in this issue are stills taken from video footage. I plan to add the videos to the website so you can check them out there. Our actual units of study at this time of year are colors, shapes, apples, seasons, and the all important social skill development.



Reminders:

- Scholastic book orders were due on Friday (today) but I have extended the online ordering to Monday as you only received the notice on that yesterday. The flyer you received explained the log-in process. Check it out so you can be familiar with the way it is set up.
- All notes from home must include the child's full name and the parent's full name.
- Do not add notes to other communications such as book orders or lunch envelopes. Use a separate sheet.
- School pictures are scheduled for Thursday September 24th. They will be taken outdoors. *In the event of rain, the date will be changed to October 29th.*
- Friday is gym day and the students should wear sneakers to school.
- The PTO directory must be turned in because they are going off to the printer soon and all of the data has to be entered by the volunteers into the data base. If you do not send yours back, your child will not be included in the directory. Every year I am asked for contact information on students who are not in the directory and I can't do that as it is against school policy.
- The Avon/Tupperware/Lia Sophia fundraiser returns are due by Monday, September 28th

Wish List:

- short envelopes that can be used as lunch envelopes each week (that's 18x40= 720 envelopes per year!)
- inexpensive luncheon size paper plates for crafts

Have a wonderful weekend with your children. They have tried their very best – every last one of them!

Regards,
Mrs. Poulin

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