

Dear Families,

We had a wonderful first day together as the new Trailblazers. There was a lot to pack in: new songs to learn, class rules to practice, stories to listen to, reading and math time, recess, p.e., new lunch routines, and more! Ask your child about "Naming the Day", a class tradition we started off today. Before dismissal, each child reflected aloud on one part of the day they especially enjoyed. One of the reasons for that routine is to help them remember things to share with you when they get home, so you might ask them what they said.

Tomorrow will be pretty much the same as today with music instead of p.e. in the afternoon. In a few weeks the second graders will begin violin lessons on Thursdays. Our full class schedule is posted on our class web page if you would like to see how the week plays out. My hope is to add some new pictures to the site soon, but I can't do that until everyone's "permission to photograph" forms are in (that's a nudge to tackle the folder of paperwork Libbet sent home today).

Thank you for sending your children in with take-home folders, pencil boxes, and crackers today. And thank you for not sending in lots of extra office supplies and toys. We were so busy we never even got around to taking out stuffies for quiet time, but we'll plan on that tomorrow. Whatever you sent today was PERFECT.

As we were packing up at dismissal, I noticed that in the excitement of the day many of the children who brought lunch did not eat much. I am not normally in the lunchroom with our class, but if this pattern continues for your child, please let me know, and I will make sure the lunch teachers encourage them to fuel up.

Finally, please look in your child's take-home folder every night and return it the next day, even if it is empty. To help children learn this habit, I will be placing a sticker on the outside of their folders each morning children remember to bring their folders and to put them in their mailboxes. When we get to 100 stickers as a class, there will be a small reward.

It was a great day with a lot of tired faces by the end of it. Encourage your child to get to bed tonight and just know that they may be a little cranky and worn out for a week or so until we all get into the routine of things. This, too, shall pass.

Thank you so much for the privilege of getting to know your children,
Beth Ann