

Upcoming Events:

- Barnes and Noble Book Fair
- Library book return Monday, Nov 16th
- LATE START Tuesday, Nov 17th
- FIELD TRIP Tuesday, NOV 24th
END OF MARKING PERIOD
End of second unit (IB)
- NO SCHOOL Wednesday NOV 25th – 27th

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Las noticias de la semana

Volume 3, Issue 2

13 de noviembre 2009

La reunión de la mañana

We have been working hard this week to get the hang of our morning meeting and it has paid off. It's a really fantastic way to start our day. The message always has something for the students to do in a way to interact with the text, helping them complete their task for the message gives me the opportunity to chat with them about what happened the night before or make them smile at least once before beginning their day.

It can be real tough to make a circle and get ready to listen, but each day we've been waiting for everyone to show that they are ready

with their body and their mind before beginning. It takes less time for us to clean up and we are not so



The students are growing in being more audaz/risk-takers, especially during morning meeting.

rushed. The greeting has been a song up until this week when we began clapping a pattern and saying

“hola” in a chorus.

Our game during the meeting changes every week, sometimes it takes that long to learn how to play the game well and develop a strategy. This week the students copy each others' patterns as one student tries to guess the mystery pattern creator.

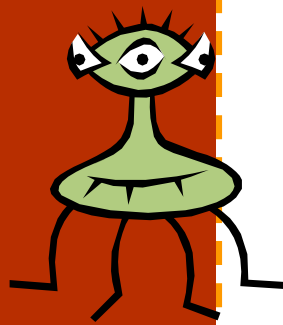
Slowly but surely, we've been building up to do more and more sharing. We are still trying to get through the Parents' hopes and dreams to place on our class tree. Our goal is to have three people share a story, ultimately in Spanish.

La batalla de hojas

At the park most of the leaves have fallen off the trees, giving the students the opportunity to amass huge piles of leaves to jump in, make forts or simply shower them over each other. Yesterday there was

a great battle with the leaves. Twice I saw students in hot pursuit of Senor Ruiz with an armload of leaves to throw at him. One student in particular was having such a good time, they barely had energy to

run or throw the leaves. All this student could do was giggle and giggle about the thought of launching the leaves at their prey. It was very contagious and soon everyone was laughing and enjoying the fallen leaves.



While the monsters are not in use they are kept safe in their cage/la jaula.

Las matematicas

Today the students were introduced and worked with simple operations. We practiced sumar/ addition and restar/ subtract using objects and a pocket/bosillo. Yesterday the students worked on measuring with objects. This helped the students to practice techniques for measuring and arranging items by length. In class we used inter-

locking cubes and large paper clips linked together. Los monstruos apretados/ The monster squeeze is a great game to play with the students to practice comparing and ordering numbers. We had fun trying to guess the secret number. It was interesting watching the monsters squeeze the number line to get closer and closer to

the mystery number. We've done a lot of dominos this week. The students played a matching game to recognize/count the dots on the domino up to 12 and match it with the number card. La bascula de platillos/ Pan balance was a great tool for students to explore experiemnts and learn about the weight of objects.

"The permission slip for the field trip was sent in the electronic Thursday Folder, please return ASAP!"

La excursi3n

Its official! Our class is going to visit the Hennepin County Waste Transfer Station and the "Bash the Trash" exhibit at the Children's Museum on the last day of school (Tuesday, Nov 24th) before the holiday break. Unfortunately, Family memberships will not be

able to be used to reduce the cost of the entrance to the Museum, we are signed up for the up-graded guided tour! We are in need of some chaperones, though unlike the walking fieldtrip and the Westwood Hills Nature Center we are not able to take anyone and every-

one who is available. Three parent chaperones would be ideal and we an work with two as well. Don't forget to pack a sack lunch that day we will not have time to come back to school!

Escribir

While working with Giovanna this week, the students have been finishing up their leaf stories and putting on the final touches to their illustrations.

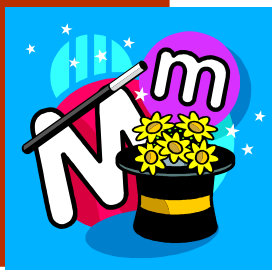
Other students have been working more with Seor Ruiz to practice writing the "mano, mano, m, m, m" in their writing notebooks.

During math time, while in smaller groups, the students have also been

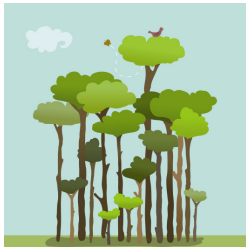
working on finishing up their number writing and representations.

With all their hard work it seems like I will have some "grading" to do this weekend.

Caption describing picture or graphic.



La literatura



We were able to finish *Nuestro árbol/Our very own tree* by Lawrence F. Lowery this week, through the eyes of two friends we discovered a lot about the roble/oak tree.

Bosque means forest or woods.

During our literacy workshop time in the morning the students have also been practicing with the book, *En el bosque/In the woods* by Bruce Larkin. The predictable text made it easy for some students to follow along with their index finger as I read the words aloud and say it with me. Other students

were ready to move along independently and read the book by taking turns with a partner. We learned about different forest animals, some they already knew and some were completely new: oso/bear, pájaro/bird, mapache/raccoon, ardilla/squirrel, conejo/rabbit. I think all groups noticed and inquired at the end of the book, why was one bear pictured wearing a baseball cap?!?

“The wonder wall can also have shorter/quicker questions... like knowing certain words in Spanish.”

Las ciencias

We were able to use the wonder wall/me gustaría saber with the students during literacy workshop time this week and last to generate a question (in the form of a drawing and assistance in writing from Giovanna) to post. I have taken some time to go through their work, and soon

we will affix them in place. The questions generated by the students ranged from “How many leaves do trees have?” to “Is there a tree that is purple?” As unofficial homework you might be able to help your student generate more questions to bring into school or to begin the search

on the computer (well supervised). One student decided during fall conferences to practice emailing me her questions as well. Inquiries last through the year, so don't hesitate to accomplish a little something more with your student.

Wish list

I have had a few requests for an updated wish list. I am considering and putting together something thoughtful.

My list ranges from items that are more like furniture to smaller items that will just help to ensure the classroom run smoothly. I need to ask

for your continued patience for the arrival of this list, because it requires some more reflection on kindergarten in general and hunting down a source or link for these items.

There will be a list of books at the Barnes and Noble book fair this Sunday that the class

would love to make use of throughout our school year. It's a place to start in lieu of the classroom wish list.



As a general reminder: the wish list posted on the website is not current



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Nuturing leaders for tomorrow's world.

Thank you in advance to Jason Carr for coming in to share about his carpentry skills with the class tomorrow!



Las cosas extras

IMMERSION PARENT TIP OF THE WEEK:

The Wild Rumpus Bookstore

[http://
www.wildrumpusbooks.com/
NASApp/store/IndexJsp](http://www.wildrumpusbooks.com/NASApp/store/IndexJsp)

has a great selection of foreign language books. This is not to take anything away from Barnes and Noble and the book fair, but there are a ton of different animals in this really curious shop. Even if you can't read there is something or things there to entertain you!

A clarified thank-you to the mystery soap donator: Julie Schmidt. We appreciate your help in keeping us healthy!

Report cards will be sent home Thursday, December 3rd in case you were wondering.

