



Dear Three's Parents,

The first month of school flew by and we seem to be off to a good start. The children are settling into their new school environment, getting comfortable with teachers and making friends. We made our first class book entitled, "Friends". This book was created to help the children get acquainted with their classmate's names. The children will each have a turn taking the book home to share with their family. September is also a time for learning classroom schedules and routines. Routines are an important part of our day. They help the children feel safe and secure because they know what is coming next and what is expected of them. Having a predictable schedule helps them feel more in control and builds self-assurance. We can already see the confidence and independence growing as the children carry out familiar routines without teacher intervention.

Our main emphasis this month was learning about color concepts. We began with a study of the color yellow. We made yellow play dough, painted at the easel with yellow, made yellow collages and read books about colors. At circle time, we had an apple basket filled with surprise yellow objects inside. The following week we learned about the color blue and repeated some of the same fun activities. Ultimately, our goal is to mix yellow and blue to make green. One of our favorite books is titled, Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni. In this story, a little dot of blue and a little dot of yellow are best friends and when they hug each other they merge into a little dot of green. To expand on this story we are sending home a plastic bag with a little blue and a little yellow play dough inside. Ask your child to retell the story while mixing the play dough. This is a great color mixing activity and a great way to encourage a school and home connection.

October will begin by learning about apples, trees and the color red. We plan to go on our first field trip the "Youth Run Farm Stand" in the Train Park. We also look forward to welcoming many more vibrant colors into our classroom as we explore autumn and its many changes. Remember, in order to help your child feel more at home in the classroom, we ask that you please provide a recent picture of your child for their cubby and another of the family for our Family Tree. Also, please remember to provide two sets of clothing, one for the morning and one for the afternoon. As the weather gets cooler your child will also need to have a hat, mittens, scarf, winter boots and snow pants in their cubby. Now is a good time to start looking to purchase snow pants and boots. We don't want to be caught off guard by the change in temperature. Remember to label all clothes with your child's name and replace as needed.

We also would like to welcome Maryam our Lehman College Student Teacher to our class. She has been wonderful addition to our team. Thank you to everyone for filling out the filming permission slips. Documenting her work with the children is an important part of her educational experience.

We are very excited about the new school year and predict a fun-filled learning experience for all of us. Happy Fall!

Meg, Sharis, Jean, Joanna and Maryam