



Weeks of 1/16/2012
Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Rock
katinawood@holytrinityacademyphx.net



1st Grade News

Science



We are having so much fun studying about whales. The overall favorite one is the Blue Whale. Did you know that the average length of a blue whale is 85 ft! They are the largest animals on earth. We had the children estimate how long they each thought 85 ft was. It was a fun lesson in Math along with Science. We used the back wall and very soon you all will see just how long 85 feet is. I love the suspense!

Next week we will be talking about dolphins. Our Science Fair is approaching quickly. Please let me know if you have any questions in regards to the letter that went home the other day. I am so excited to see all the wonderful projects your child will create.

Reading



We love to read our Open Court Reading book together as a class. We have been reading at least one or sometimes two stories a day. Then the children choose to pick out a Level 2 book to read independently. They are reading so well and I am so proud of all of them!

Journal writing this week was on the Blue Whale. The children are now writing at least 3 sentences but are choosing to write more! This makes me so excited. I love Journal writing.

Welcome back to school. Hope you all had a great Holiday break and were able to spend a lot of time together as a family.

Math



We have been working on using finger sets to add and subtract. The children use their fingers to solve addition and subtraction problems. Next week we will be adding and subtracting with our fingers out of sight. Children are so excited to do this. We are also working on vertical form with adding and subtracting.

We continue to practice writing our numbers. We use the white board and I also have them write out their numbers on paper. This is getting much better.

General



We have been working on our body parts in Greek. We have started with the head and parts on our face. Next week we will concentrate on hands, feet and fingers. We are continuing to use our words we have learned in sentences. All the children can do this now and seem to enjoy it.

We have started talking about Martin Luther King, Jr. in Social Studies. The children have learned about how he changed the laws that were unfair to African Americans. He did it by marching peacefully and sticking to his beliefs. Great lesson for us all.

I continue to talk to the children on a daily basis about using their manners and being respectful to everyone. We are still having some feelings getting hurt and I believe this still needs to be addressed.