

Pre-K families,

Thank you for the effort you continue to put forth, keeping your student engaged, and participating, in on-line learning. I know you are the ones that set up the videos, prepare the materials, and sit with them to ensure worksheets and learning activities are started and completed. We couldn't do this without you. THANK YOU!

This week we started the letter, "y", "#25", color "yellow", and shape "pentagon". I continue to prerecord morning circle and work time videos daily. I've been having issues with the length of time it takes to upload/process in order to post, so I'm going to revert to recording the day before so it can be ready by our 9:00 am start time. On Thursdays, be sure to watch for Mrs. McLeod's phonics lesson, it's an additional video under the "morning circle" channel. Our weekly check in has been fun and I think the students are getting used to the live video. Our next weekly check in will be Wednesday, 4/8, at 9:30. Mid-week helps break up the week and it's great for the kids to see each other and get ideas from others to finish off their week. We continue to upload stories in the "story time" channel for your student to watch when it's convenient. I'd like students to continue working in their journal every day – to include our letter, number, and shape of the week, their name, and a picture of something that is our color of the week, or whatever they want. In religion we've been working on our station of the cross mini book and hearing short stories on each station (see work time videos).

Next week we'll start with the letter, "z", number "26", color "purple", and shape, "trapezoid". You should have all the worksheets by now but, I will e-mail a set of scanned worksheets for those that don't have them or misplaced them. The worksheets are used daily in our "work time" videos so please be sure to save them in order to spread out the work a bit. I hope everyone has started, or plans a time to start, on the planting activity Mrs. McLeod sent with our packet of worksheets (this could be a project over spring break). This is not only a fun activity but, a great learning one too. Hands on learning (learning by DOING) at this age is so important and effective. It's why we do things like; finding objects to create our letter or shape of the week, search the house for things that are our color of week, count out lego's or m&m's and sort, pattern, graph..., and practice writing our letter/number/shape of the week in a tray of sugar versus doing these things on a worksheet. Yes, we still have worksheets, and that's important too but, hands on learning allows the student to engage with a subject to problem solve and/or create. They can listen to instruction from a teacher, but when they are physically involved in learning, they are engaged and are more likely to retain the subject material. I love seeing the photos

you're sending, and watching the students share during our live session, there is a LOT of hands on learning going on at home! Kudos to all and keep it up!!

Next week, in addition to our regular schedule and specialists, we'll have a guidance lesson with our school counselor, Mrs. Boyd. This lesson will be found under the "guidance lesson" channel on Tuesday. In science, Ms. Blower is planning a plant life cycle activity to go along with the planting activity Mrs. McLeod mailed home.

Best,

Julie