

Pat's Learning Adventure

Pat's Learning Adventure at the Annex

Newsletter September 20, 2007

This wonderful week we continued to fill our marvelous minds with interesting information. Laughing Luna and Intelligent Ella's Dad, Jason, came to school Wednesday to teach us about powerful places in our bodies. These are points called chakras. He taught us about the root chakra. The root chakra is about our connection to the earth. We did exercises to show how to ground ourselves and talked about possessions and letting go of things. To help us understand, Jason had each of us bring something special to school and we buried it in a time capsule. We will leave it there for the rest of the year. Tristan said he wanted to cry when he put his object in the box, but he knew he would see it again so it was ok. Ari put in her handmade skeleton brother, and Evil Ethan put his action figure, which he said would one day take over the world thanks to the earth magic it will gain this year. We all put our objects in and then buried the box together and marked the space with a lotus statue and special rocks. Cool Clare thought the class was totally awesome.

Animated Ari and Trusty

Tiarnan

Marvelous Math continues to keep us thinking. Mad Max and Terrible Tiarnan had to do freaky phone number totals, adding the noble numbers. They figured out four numbers and talked about the strategies they used to figure them. Evil Emperor Ethan, Crazy Kyler, Sweet Sarah, particular Patrick and Magical Megan were introduced to Hands-on algebra. Intellegent Ella was a helper with Lovable Luna and Titan Tristan as they built towers with different number combinations and played an adding and subtracting game.

Miraculous Max and Mindful Megan

This wicked week Pat's Little Devils have skirted through sublime science. We continue to learn how food fuels our bodies. We have been learning about friendly fruits and how to read the labels on fruit products. We built scales and brought in surprisingly sugary sodas and we measured how much sugar was in them. "There was something like 345 grams of sugar in my little drink!" Said Sweet Sarah. The food unit is making us all aware of what we eat.

Signing off with Patrick the Powerful Pistol
and Emperor Ethan

Last Friday we went on a Bike Hike from City Park to Napoleon Park and back. The hike was a marvelous manifesto of spinning wheels; well sometimes spinning wheels. Luna's bike was insufficient and uncooperative. Here is Luna's view of what happened. "My buddy bike kept rubbing against Michele's back tire. It slowed the ride down like an ant crawling up a horrific hill." However, Luna did not feel that way all the time. She loved going up and down the hills and said, "It felt like a roller coaster. There were moments when we were just spinning through the forest." On the way, back the tired troopers stopped off for sweet, yummy, delicious, delightful ice cream. The next day all the cool kids wrote poems about the hike. Clare took a moment to reflect on how she felt when she was quietly spinning along.

Riding down the empty road,
Smiling at trees.
Peddling
The rhythmic beat of the bike,
Bouncing down the path.
Yellow leaves
falling to the padded ground like little
Drops of sun
Splattered on the
Canvas of an artist.

Cat Clare and Stormy Luna

We little aliens are planning to get into our superior spaceship van and travel the galaxies to the land of Decorah. We plan to go space hiking and we might just go to a clock museum. We active aliens are going to stay in a cabin (that is what human's call them) and watch a wonderful waterfall pour down into a sparkling spring. We plan on going for two days, Thursday, September 27 and Friday, September 28. A permission slip with all pertinent information will be coming home Monday.

5, 4, 3, 2, 1,
We can't wait to go!

Sassy Sarah and

Excellent Ella

As the weather is supposed to be hot and humid on Friday, Elegant Ethan's generous parents are allowing us to cool off in their peaceful

pool. Make sure to bring swimsuits and a towel on Friday to take advantage of this wonderful offer.

Cannonball Kyler and Terrific Tristan

Necessary Notes:

The curriculum afternoon and potluck was a stupendous success. Thanks to all who came and all who helped make it happen, especially the busy elves who helped with the work weekend: Patrick and his Parents, Jason Auer Sears and John Lanaghan, Ethan Fox, Ken and Jeremy Schmidt, Ken Hallinan (Pat's neighbor) Ethan and Abe Kline, Megan Kann and Ella and Luna Auer Sears. It was a wonderful week at the Annex thanks to your efforts.

Please note that the address for our web site has been changed.

www.pat'slearningadventure.org Check it out. (Thanks to Ethan Fox for all his work on the Web site.)

Special Thanks to Cathy Woodman and Derrik Roller for their additions to hot lunch.