

Pat's Learning Adventure

Newsletter, October 4, 2007

Tale of a Class Trip

We rode the dragon hills into
Decorah
where bumpy rocks like dragon scales
took us to its den,
our campsite.

Shades of glamorous green enveloped us
as we entered the camp.
A place for fantastic fantasies of fairies
a dream come true.
Standing on the suspension bridge
swinging in sweet safety,
watching pine trees reaching for the hands of clouds,
we crossed to
echoes of play in days past.

We sat around the fierce fire roasting our puffy pleasures,
then
Vampires trudged around our ice-cold cabins.
Megan's magical tales swept us into silent slumber, until
freezing feet dangled over Sarah's head as
they fell through the crack of DOOM.
A makeover of Max while mystical Michele slept.

In the cool, wet morning,
We guzzled steaming hot chocolate and delicious delicate
delights
(eggs and potatoes)
Then we headed for the waterfall
Liquid ice.
The whispering water wrapped around our feet,
tugging us with its icy tongue as
we climbed and clamored to the river's birth.
Max found a flip flop with a "soul".
Writing , then riding
Particularly pleased to see our perfect parents.

In Super Science class we are producing our own corny commercials about healthy snacks as a final project for our nutrition unit. We divided into four groups. Each group must plan their own commercial or poster. We will be taping them on Monday.

Kiwi Kyler

We started making an awesome abacus in math this week using beautiful beads. The abacus is the earliest form of calculator, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing all in one terrific tool. We can do virtually everything in the math world with an abacus. Now we can do it all with our own handmade tool. It was like magic making them. "I had a hard time figuring out how to make it, but in the end I was proud of my learning creation," said Monkey Max. We are all looking forward to becoming wonderful math whizzes.

Marvelous Max and Magical Megan

In Powerful Poetry we have been reading poems from various poets. On the popular meter, Shel Silverstein scored high as always, but Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost are moving up in popularity. We have also been sharing our book reading in Bellowing Book Talk, where we summarize books we are reading. When we share a book, we add a scale to our daring dragon on the wall.

Emperor Ethan

In yo yo yoga, we are becoming the amazing yoga team. Our flexibility soars as we have glorious fun. We do the double D downward facing dog. We a partner we made up poses like porch vine and lotus bridge. At the end, we lie down, learn to relax and play the "stand up game". We relax to soothing music and when the music stops we see who can be the first to jump into the magical air.

Easy Ella and Cool Clare

The superb book , Tom Sawyer is more exciting than ever. We are at the part where Tom and his friend Huckelberry Finn just went to the cemetery where they witnessed a murder. It was very scary and exciting as Pat read this part. I can't wait till tomorrow when we will read the next chapter and find out if Tom shares his "secret".

Patrick the Powerful Pistol

The Friday before last, we had our first art class. Ari's dad showed the older kids how to do nose and finger drawing. It was very silly, fun and educational. He also taught us how to use a view finder, a frame used to narrow what you draw. We want to thank Nathan for sharing his time with us and don't forget to do your homework. While the older kids were drawing, the younger kids worked on sandpainting. Tristan thought it was fun making his Sandman out of sand.

Artistic Ari

Notes:

For lunch on Thursdays, we will be having a picnic at College Green park as long as the weather cooperates. As the children are tired of bagels, they can bring a sack lunch or money to buy a sandwich at the co-op. On October 18, we will have a birthday lunch out for Kyler. Kids are asked to bring \$.50 toward Kyler's birthday lunch that day.

Tuition is due. Thanks to all parents who have been timely with payments, it makes my job easier.

I have been called for jury duty on November 5. To make this possible, I have changed my anniversary plans. There WILL BE SCHOOL on Monday, October 22 and WILL NOT BE SCHOOL on Monday, November 5. Thanks for your understanding.

Pat