November 28, 2016

Dear Parents,

It’s Monday and we are celebrating another SCIS Dragon’s birthday. Happy birthday to Liv! The sun is shining and the kids are happy to be at school. They have built strong relationships and enjoy each day learning through play and making new memories. We prepare ourselves to say goodbye to two of our classmates, Pepijn and Kokomi. Pepijn’s last day is Wednesday, November 30th. Kokomi will stay until later in December.

 We want to thank you for writing names on all the clothing. It helps us keep up with the uniforms and keep up with belongings. Also, thank you for attending to the dress code and sending your child to school each day in the designated outfit. The pants/skirst should always be navy blue.

 Katja Gram continues to keep us all informed about events and reminders. Thank you again, Katja. We appreciate the support. Here are a few dates to see again:

* December 2: HAT DAY in Lower School
* December 2: 8:15 ES Assembly in Black Box (Tobias,Kokomi recognized for Learner Profiles Award
* December 6: Lower School Principal’s Coffee Morning at 9:00 am and PAFA General meeting at 10:00 including Q &A with Mr. Luebbe.
* December 8 Grades 2-5 Winter Concert starting at 4:30 until 5:30
* December 9: PK-Grade 1 Winter Concert : 1:00 pm-2:00
* December 9: WINTERFEST Celebration 2:00-4:30
* December 16: End of First Semester: Reports cards distribute via email. **Students will be dismissed at 11:30 am.**

Reading: READING is THINKING! Our reading workshop is underway and we are learning to think about the books we are “reading.” For instance, we have been thinking about our feelings that arise when we read and how characters change in a story. Please continue to encourage your child to read the book coming home in the folder each day and PLEASE return it the following day. The readers are building vocabulary by engaging with these books. Please don’t expect them to be able to read the texts word for word. They are all emerging readers and will make mistakes. This is a beginning stage of reading and establishing text to picture connections is an important step. They should be tracking the words with their fingers, but they will not always be able to decode accurately.

 Writers Workshop has really bloomed in our classroom. Writers are sharing small moments across three pages. We first THINK then DRAW then WRITE then READ what we have written. We will invite you to come in the spring to celebrate our accomplishments.

 We are nearing the end of Module 2 which centers around 2D and 3D shapes. The children can identify the difference between the two and more importantly use vocabulary to describe the shapes’ attributes. Using position words such as beside, below, on and under are also important vocabulary for this unit. Assessments will be conducted this week.

 Our Unit of Inquiry,” Play Around the World” ended with a summative assessment of game creation. Each child created his or her own game and included instructions on how to play the game with our three principles in mind: BE FAIR, TAKE TURNS and FOCUS! Today, we begin our third Unit of Inquiry: Celebrations Around the World.

 Thank you for all your support and encouragement. It makes a big difference for parents to stay involved and informed about the learning at school. We hope to have a great last few days before our Winter Break. On this note, please don’t send your child to school if they are showing signs of illnesses such a bad coughs, diarrhea or fever. Our school policy is that children must be “FEVER FREE” for 24 hours before returning to school.

Jessie and I are really enjoying teaching and learning with your children. The progress a kindergartner makes in a few months is remarkable and great to watch. We are also learning a lot from them

Sincerely,

Laurie Luebbe