

News From 116 & 118

Dear Families,

Science

Our classes are beginning a scientific study of solids and liquids. We have been observing the properties of many solids and liquids, comparing how different solids and liquids are alike and how they are different. We will organize the results of our discoveries and communicate both orally and in writing the things we discover. These processes (observing, communicating, comparing, and organizing) are the basic thinking processes students need at this age to develop a scientific understanding of the world around them.

Your child may ask you for help finding solids and liquids at home. You'll want to discuss and compare the different characteristics of those you find. (For example, how are salt and sugar the same? How are they different?) You may find yourself observing what happens when solids and liquids are put together. Making lemonade or salad dressing can provide interesting observations when solids and liquids are mixed. Watching an ice cube melt is a way to observe a solid change to a liquid.

Writing Workshop

Good writing deserves to be revised. For our new writing unit on Revision, we have become the kings and queens of our own writing. Since purple is the color of royalty we use pens with purple ink to revise our work. We've taught lessons that teach children both how and why to revise their work. As children learn how to use cross out lines, carat marks and stapled extra strips of paper, they also learn that honing or adding details, images, and dialogue, for example, can improve the quality of their writing.

Upcoming

Haruko from the Midwest Food Co-op will be working with our classes this Spring doing a series of four lessons on food and nutrition.

May 3rd We will be going on a field trip to the Ordway. Permission slips were collected for this trip in the Fall.

May 24th Chutes and Ladders field trip and picnic
9:30 – 1:00 Permission slips will be sent home at the beginning of May. We love to have parents come along and help on this field trip.

June 4th: Portfolio Sharing 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

We need the following items:

Clorox wipes,
Paper towels
Kleenex
snacks