



September 26, 2011

Dear Parents,

Each week things are going a bit more smoothly. Behaviorally, our class is a challenge. There are some children who argue, don't do what they are asked, and who run and shout in the classroom. I have consequences for inappropriate behavior and I am hoping that in time, they will understand, they need to do what they are asked to do. I like to give the children the month of September to settle in and learn what I expect before I call home about behavior. After this week, if some of my friends do not settle in, I will be calling home to have an early conference with the child and the parents. The majority of the students are appropriate but we have about six who need more practice.

In two weeks, weather permitting, we are going to the Rocky Ridge Apple Orchard in Topsham (Thursday, October 6th). The entire first grade will travel to the orchard and break up into several groups. One group will have apple story time, one group will go on a scavenger hunt, one group will observe how to make apples into a delicious treat, and one group will go into the orchard to pick apples. We will need parent volunteers. If you would like to go and have filled out the volunteer background check form, please let me know. We will leave a 9:00 AM and return around 11:30 AM.

We have just completed our first unit in our math program. Students took their first math assessment on Friday. We will begin reading groups on Monday now that I have all reading assessments completed. Students are practicing penmanship by reviewing capital letters.

Student authors are writing stories in the afternoons and we have a great group of writers. In social studies, we are featuring one student each week so we get to know our classmates. If your child brings home a white paper bag with a note, please help him/her fill it to bring back to school. Wednesday's science was about bubbles. We went outside to blow and chase bubbles using four of our senses to observe (touch, sound, sight, smell). Students did a great job helping me write about our experience. Our monarch caterpillar came out of its chrysalis this week as a butterfly! Thanks to Nathan and Colby for gently letting it go.

Book orders went out on Wednesday night. Another will go home late in October. They should arrive by the end of this week.

Please email or call me if you have any questions. Stay up to date with our classroom by checking in on our website or my blog.

www.mmbay.net (you will find the blog on this link)

Have a great week.

Wanda Brown



