Welcome Back Dragonfly families!

We are back into the routine, picking up lessons and work from where we left off. The transition back to school was quite seamless on our end, and I hope the same for you. We have had a few Birthdays since the last Newsletter. Maddison, Ida and Lily all turned 5 years old, bringing our total to nine 5-year-olds. We also welcomed Olivia and her family to our community last week. She has been busy working from day one and the children have enjoyed helping her. Valentine's Day is around the corner. Your child may want to make their own Valentine's for a few friends or purchase pre-made ones for each child. Either way is fine, but plan on helping your child place them in the personal V-Day bags placed on their cubbies as the day gets closer. Also, it is nice to have a few parent volunteers for an hour in the morning to help read Valentines. Let me know if you are interested and I will send you the details.

Many things your children are working on each day are not sent home in the folders.   I will be filling you in with as much as I can during the 30 minute conferences in March. These may include: being a good role model for the others, using manners and being polite, helping others, being respectful (listening) when others are sharing/talking and attitude towards working. If you are interested in your child's progress, I encourage you to talk with them about what they are enjoying at school, ask them what challenging work they have been choosing and then discuss their progress. (This is good information for me to hear at conferences, so be sure to mention it.) Your interest in what they do at school can be a wonderful motivator and help with confidence that may be lacking with certain things. It can also help strengthen their work ethic and focus.   Tell them true stories about how you learned to tie or how you use Math at work, etc. Tell them about what you enjoy doing for your work as well. I have listed some recent work to get you started.

Ace - Division, *word problems, Biomes* (animal research), and writing in a journal.

Arianna- *Addition with the stamp game and Subtraction with the Strip Board*. Learning more sight words, researching animals, and using adverbs.

Ava - *Spindle boxes* for counting and understanding quantities numbers 1-10. Tracing the *sandpaper numerals* 1-9 and writing them on them on the chalkboard.

Dane - *Metal insets, 100 board, addition with the strip board, counting the squaring chains, tying and metal insets, work on writing italic letters.*

Dorian - Counting the *1000 chain, cursive writing*, memorizing essential combinations in Math and *addition snake ga*me.

Ellora - Letter sounds, number writing, and *puzzle maps*.

Emma - *Button sewing, burlap stitching, counting numbers 1-10,* Identifying numerals 1-10, identifying initial letter sound in words.

Ida - *Dot game (addition into 10,000*); adverb, cursive writing.

Lily - *Embroidery sewing, pillow making*-(learning the sewing machine and pinning fabric); phonetic letter sounds of lowercase letters and teen numbers.

Maddison - *Addition Strip board* (learning the essential combinations); *Golden Beads* (decimal system) Addition and subtraction. Reading phonetic words and numeral writing.

Maddalyn - *Counting the* squaring chains, *embroidery and pillow making*, and writing.

Olivia - *pouring grains, open & closing various containers, bead stringing, magnet, cylinder blocks and playing the bells.*

Owen - *Counting chains, Addition with the Strip Board and Golden Beads,* reading and writing.

Quinn - *preparing tea, button sewing, binomial cube* and counting and recognizing numbers 1-10.

Sosie - *Biomes, sight words*, italic letter writing, map making.

Samantha - *Dog breed names, arctic animal vocabulary*, numbers 1-10, and initial letter sounds.

Violet - *Teen numbers,* initial letter sounds, recognizing letters, *burlap sewing, experimenting with the magnet.*

Viviene - *Addition with Golden Beads* (decimal system), *Biomes,* reading, and spelling with the *moveable alphabet.*