

December 16, 2019

Dear Parents,

Thank you to all the families who were able to attend our performance. I know you child appreciated that you were there for the big day.

This Friday is the last day of school until Monday, February 3rd. We had a great three months, and I hope we don't forget all we have learned, while we are off track!

You can help your child retain what we have learned by practicing a few things while we are off track. First, make sure that you read to your child EVERY day. When you are reading, stop at the "Kindergarten Sight Words" and have them try to read them. Don't let them struggle for more than 5 seconds before reading the word for them. Then have them say the word while you point to it.

I have included a month-long reading log. Students should also continue practicing sight words. I have also included some name writing practice, which can be used a couple times a week. Don't expect perfection, because many of my students do not yet have the fine motor skills they need to print neatly. You can help develop fine motor skills by having your child work with small objects like beads, or nuts and bolts.

Whenever possible, have your child count things. I suggested to them that they could help unload the dishwasher by washing their hands and unloading spoons. They can then count the spoons as they put them away. There are always things to count, and they love to count them. Another fun activity is for children to find numbers at the grocery store. In all cases, make sure it is a positive experience. If they are tired of practicing, don't force the issue too much while we are off track.

If you would like to talk while I am off track, you are welcome to contact me. The easiest and most reliable way of reaching me is by cell phone. You are welcome to text me or call me. If I am available to talk, I will pick up the phone. If I am not available, please leave a message with your phone number and the best time to call, and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Have fun while you are "Off Track"!

Sincerely,

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Steven Howe Mary Tsukamoto Elementary School