

# CLASSROOM NEWS!

St. Viator

Pre-K 4/Room 104

March 4, 2018

## Ms. Natalie's Newsletter

### Themes

This week, we worked with the Dr. Seuss theme. We read Dr. Seuss books or books from The Cat in the Hat Learning Library. These books all have a lot of rhyming and predictable text which makes them good for learning to read. Students learned about Dr. Seuss and how he started writing books because of his concern about illiteracy among school children. He wrote and illustrated 44 books and wrote more that were illustrated by other people. Students shared which books they have at home or have read before. Many students were excited to read and look at the books we have in class. We began by reading one of the most popular of Dr. Seuss' books, *The Cat in the Hat*. After reading the book, students made Cat in the Hat masks. On the hats, they wrote words that rhyme with *hat* by changing the first letter. We discussed how rhyming words are words that have the same ending sounds and we practiced while reading the books and filling in the blanks using rhyming words. Phonemic awareness skills like rhyming is an important step in learning to read.

Students started making crafts to celebrate the month of March and St. Patrick's Day. They decorated shamrocks using shades of green tissue paper and fabric swatches. One of each of their shamrocks will be put up in the local Starbucks on Irving Park Road.



### Stories

*The Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss

*One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* by Dr. Seuss

*Red, Stop! Green, Go!* by P.D. Eastman

*Hop on Pop* by Dr. Seuss

*ABC* by Dr. Seuss

### Activities

**Language Arts:** Along with studying the letter T, we continued the unit in Happily Ever After centered on the story *The Tug of War*. We reviewed the letters R-T and students identified and found each uppercase and lowercase letter on their pages. In a different lesson, they identified long and short pictures and followed arrows along a path. Lastly, students connected dots following arrows to make an elephant and identified whether words began with the same sounds.

**Math:** With the theme of the week, students sorted and counted goldfish. They also found and counted different Dr. Seuss characters and items and wrote the amounts on the lines given. Lastly, we have been working on counting up to 100 by ones and tens. Students were assessed on how far they could count using one to one correspondence.

**Religion:** We studied Chapter 17: Jesus Feeds Many People and students listened to the Bible story about Jesus showing God's love for people by making more bread and fish for them out of the small amounts they had. We discussed God's love for us and made a list of what we thank God for. Students also matched some of these numbered items with the matching numbered baskets in their leaflets.