



BACK TO SCHOOL!



St. Viator

Pre-K 4/Room 104.

September 1, 2017

Ms. Natalie's Newsletter

Themes

This week, we have been working with the "All about Me" theme. We talked about how we are all different and how there are many things that make us special. The students made banners filling in characteristics about themselves like hair color, eye color, favorite color, food, and toy. We first played a game where students got into groups of similar characteristics so they could see how they were alike and different. We talked about our siblings and pets as well. They made their faces on paper plates using crayons and yarn. After reading *One Family*, we discussed how our families are different and special and students shared about who is in their families. We began talking about our names and how many letters are in them. Students used dotters to go over the letters of their names. Students are learning how to write their first names the correct way with a capital first letter and lowercase the other letters. We will continue to work with students' names next week and begin our apples unit. Activities, centers, and stories are centered on these thematic units and they relate to Social Studies, Math, Language Arts, and Science standards.

On Friday, we met with our 6th grade buddies and they paired off with the students. These buddies will come down and do activities with us about once a month. They will also accompany us to Church and sit with us at the Monday Morning Meetings in the Gym. Both classes were excited to meet and play together this week!

Stories

All About Me by Scholastic

Me and My Amazing Body by Joan Sweeney

One Family by George Shannon

The Family Book by Todd Parr

I'm Growing by Alike

Activities

Language Arts/Math: We have been assessing students by pulling out pairs or individual students to do the projects listed in the Themes section. As we are helping the students do these activities, we are observing their fine motor development and their knowledge of letters, numbers, colors, and shapes. I have also been doing a Happily Ever After pre-assessment to determine instructional groups.

Religion: We began the Stories of God's Love series with Chapter 1: "Jesus' Special Friends". We discussed how we are friends of Jesus and how he would like us to behave. Students listened to a Bible story about Jesus' special friends or Apostles Peter, James, Andrew, and John. In the story, these Apostles were fishermen so we played a game where students had to find the other half of their fish that another student was holding which was the same color and letter pair. Students also colored in the word "Friends" in their booklets. There will be one of these for every chapter and on the back, there is useful information for parents.