

Kindergarten

December 2024



DECEMBER DATES

Dec. 6: Parent Academy, Phonics
8:50a.m. Lincoln School Library

Dec. 13: RHS Computer Club will lead students in the Hour of Code as part of Computer Science Ed. Week.

Dec. 13: Report Cards, via Parent Portal

Dec. 17: Holiday Gift Shop for students

Dec. 18: Last Day of Mitten/Hat Drive

Dec. 19: Pajama Day and Winter Craft

Dec. 20: One Session Day,
12:45 Dismissal



MESSAGE FROM MRS. CAUGHEY

This month, students will be exploring the different winter traditions celebrated around the world with the opportunity for students to share their traditions through the Winter Traditions Project. This is a fun time to learn about the different holidays and celebrations directly from peers!

This month also is the start of Trimester 2. Students will be expected to accurately and fluently demonstrate the foundational skills from Trimester 1 to develop as readers, writers, and mathematicians.



SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL UPDATE

We are SAFE!

We are KIND!

We are BRAVE!

Safe-Safe with ourselves and others by using things correctly and being mindful of our body and our actions.

Kind-Be kind by not being too hard on ourselves and kind to others by being respectful and interacting appropriately.

Brave-Brave to try new things even if they are perceived as hard and to take responsibility if we made a mistake.

These guiding rules in addition to character education (citizenship, respect, and gratitude) have provided a solid foundation to our learning community.

ACADEMIC UPDATE

The first trimester has come to an end! Report Cards will be available for viewing via the Parent Portal on December 13th! Additional information will be shared in an email! The following is a snap shot of Trimester 1.

- Letter knowledge: Identification, formation and sound.
- High Frequency Words, or red words: words that children will come across at a high rate and need to identify fluently.
- Spelling/Writing: Using letter/sound knowledge and high frequency word knowledge to label pictures and write simple sentences. Using illustrations to communicate ideas.
- Number knowledge: Identify, write, count sets of objects through 10. Identify greater, less, more, fewer.



Let Grow believes today's kids are smarter and stronger than our culture gives them credit for. We are making it easy, normal and legal to give kids the independence they need to grow into capable, confident, and happy adults. When we let go we...

Let Grow.
Letgrow.org



LET GROW AT THE CENTER

The Kindergarten Center has always taken a whole child approach to student development, supporting their growth academically, socially, and emotionally. Infused within the day, students are developing their abilities to communicate, problem solve, collaborate, take turns, and develop independence. These skills are necessary for students to be independently successful within their learning and beyond the academic setting.

The Kindergarten Center will be providing parents the option to further support their child's growth towards independence. As you may remember, Mr. Hurley, Superintendent, referenced Jon Haidt's recent book, *The Anxious Generation*, during his opening message to parents in September. Mr. Hurley touched upon various key points including the need for students to be more independent which could help reduce anxiety and depression within our students. This month, the teachers have identified several self-help skills that need to be practiced daily (see attached) and starting next month, parents will be provided with the opportunity to help promote their child's independence based on Jon Haidt's organization, Let Grow. The Let Grow Experience is a homework assignment that has kids go out and do something new and on their own.

When kids do something independent and new, big things happen. Worry gets replaced by pride and joy. This at home opportunity is a family decision and completely optional; however, we will work to help celebrate the accomplishments of your child at the end of each month.

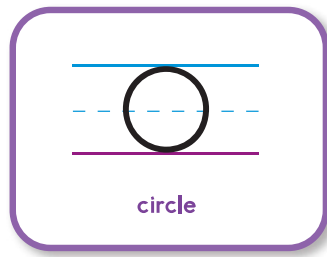
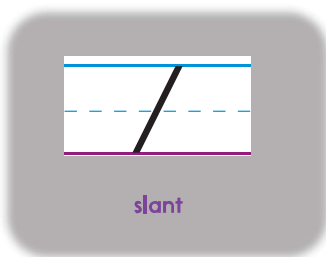
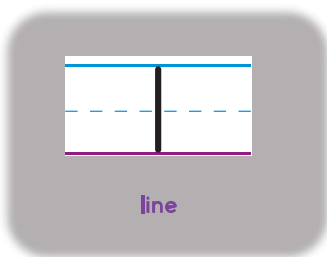
JANUARY AT A GLANCE

January's project is all about letting your child get comfortable trying out things that "stretch" them, and allow them to be more independent than before. The point is to do something new independently.

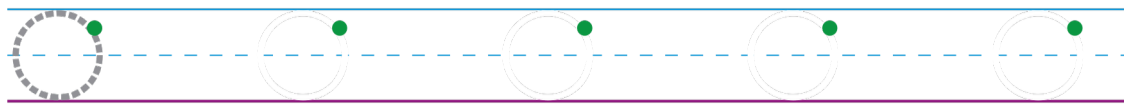
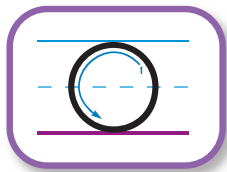
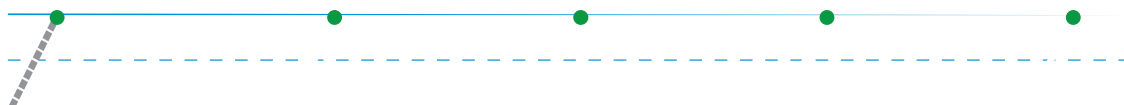
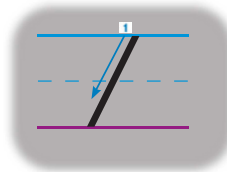
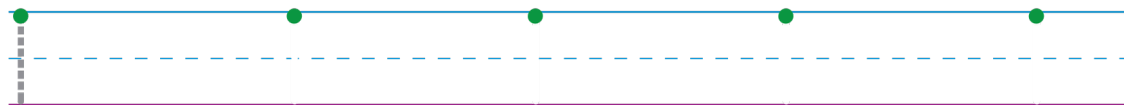
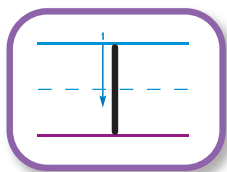
Stepping outside of their comfort zone is where the growth happens!

SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE AT THE K-CENTER

As students develop an understanding of classroom norms, a gradual release of student prompting occurs and expectations for students to apply themselves independently increases. Some of these behaviors include packing and unpacking backpacks, putting on/taking off outerwear, being responsible during lunch and snack, and advocating for themselves.



Directions: Trace and write the handwriting strokes.



When writing letters, always start at the top. Please reinforce this concept at home. This month focuses on the formation of the following letters **Mm, Ll, Cc, Aa, Hh** as well as identifying them by name and their sound. For vowels, students are taught the short sound (as in cat) but that vowels also make a second sound, the long sound, and say their name.

October words: **the like I see can go**, applying correct formation and developing spatial awareness.



Get Ready to Write

Tripod Grip



Right hand:

Hold pencil near large knuckle of index finger.

Index finger rests on top of pencil.

Thumb is bent.



Left hand:

Hold pencil near large knuckle of index finger.

Index finger rests on top of pencil.

Thumb is bent.