

# Mrs. Leopold's Pre-Kindergarten Newsletter

Week of May 28 - June 1

Circle Time: We continued to learn about dinosaurs this week. We learned many more facts about dinosaurs, including the names of specific dinosaurs, and whether they were carnivores or herbivores. We compared and contrasted dinosaur teeth and learned clues to tell what type of eater each dinosaur was. Herbivores have flat, small teeth while carnivores have large, sharp teeth. We added new words to our dinosaur vocabulary list. One of Tyrannosaurus Rex's teeth is 6 inches long; that is about the size of each of our heads. Wow is that big!

We read some great books this week including The Dinosaur, The Smallest Stegosaurus, Dinosaurs Galore, Bumpasaurus, and How Big is a Stegosaurus. We continued to sing our dinosaurs songs from last week.

Art:

Big Dinosaurs: We used the easel to reach up and paint big dinosaurs.

Fossils: We used model magic and pressed in bones, dinosaurs, shells and leaves to make fossil prints.

Math: After researching dinosaurs and learning details about their size, we tried to grasp just how large the largest dinosaurs were. To help the children see their true size we compared how many children would make up the length of Diplodocus. We laid ourselves head to toe in the hallway and discovered just how long an 80 foot dinosaur was! We started at our room and made it halfway down the first grade hallway to Mrs. L'Etoile's room. Diplodocus was bigger than all 16 of us. Diplodocus was actually equal to at least 21 of us. Wow!

We graphed our favorite dinosaur as well. This is a good activity for us to work on counting to see which dinosaur had the most votes and which had the least.

Science: Together we built a volcano. We surrounded the volcano with dinosaurs to represent what we thought the land of the dinosaur looked like. We mixed baking soda, red food coloring and vinegar together and watched the hot lava erupt from inside and run down the side. It was really cool. We discussed facts about lava including its temperature and what it might have done to the dinosaurs. We loved it so much that we had it erupt over and over. It is a fun but messy experiment for home. We did ours on a tray to catch the runoff.

We went out into the butterfly courtyard and looked at a Dilophosaurus footprints fossil that was found in Rocky Hill when they were trying to build a National Park. The state of Connecticut donated it to Webster Hill School. Awesome!

Sensory table: We continued on an archeological dig in the sensory table. Using diggers and brushes we acted like paleontologists and uncovered dinosaurs in the sand. We even had hats

to wear just like the ones paleontologists wear! We found bones and tried to piece them together.

Manipulatives: We continued to use dinosaur manipulatives, which reinforced our counting, sorting and patterning skills. We also explored some foam dinosaur puzzles and alphabet ordering and matching games.

Special events:

Don't forget Monday, June 4 is our last field trip to the Auerfarm. We will be outside all morning so dress your child appropriately. Please send a bagged lunch as we will be having a picnic outdoors.

Thursday, June 14 is our school's flag day celebration, please make sure to dress your child in red, white and or blue or if he/she has clothing with a flag on it that is great too.

**You're Invited to a Farm Party!**

Please bring your family and join us for an end of year celebration at the Auerfarm with WHPS Pre-K classes and Kindergarten classes from Charter Oak

**Thursday, June 14th 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

158 Auerfarm Road, Bloomfield, CT

BYOP (bring your own picnic)

Visit the animals, explore the farm, enjoy a hayride and make Ice Cream!

**\*\*\*\* Hope to see you all Tuesday, June 19 at 8:45 in the morning for our goodbye celebration and breakfast held in our pre-k room. \*\*\*\***

**Our last day of school is Wednesday, June 20 at 2:00.**

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Have a nice weekend,

Mrs. Leopold and Mrs. Burnett

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