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September 30, 2016



# From the Desks of Mrs. Shober & Mrs. Kries



- Welcome back to Whiton, a new year and the 1st edition of aWESome news!
- Dates to Remember:
- October 3- Rosh Hashanah: School Closed
- Week of Respect:
  - October 4- Wear **White**
  - October 5- Wear **Green**
  - October 6- Wear mismatched clothes  
Diversity Circus Assembly- All Grades
  - October 7- Wear favorite team shirt  
Mr. Sadecky's Puppet Assembly- **2nd** and **3rd** grades
- October 12- Yom Kippur: School Closed
- October 14 - Movie Night- **PK, K and 1** at 6:30. Please bring chairs and blankets!
- Halloween Celebration- October 31st. Parades and class parties. More information is coming soon.

# What's With That Pesky "S"?

An "S" or "Z" sound can be found in error in several ways. It can be omitted, substituted for or distorted. There are several types of distortions or misarticulations of the "S" sound and consequently the "Z" sound.

*The Interdental Lisp*-this is the most common lisp that school age children have. A child substitutes a "TH" sound for an "S" sound. For example, the word "sick" would sound like "thick" and the word "pass" would sound like "path".

*The Central Dental Lisp*- if the tongue tip gets too close to the top of the teeth, but does not actually get between the top and bottom teeth the "S" sound may be distorted when produced.

*The Lateral Lisp*- if the sides of the tongue do not block the airflow coming through the sides of the teeth properly, the "S" sound is distorted. It's as if the child were saying a whispered "L" sound. This results in a slushy, unpleasant sound.

*The Whistling "S"*-This is a distortion that is produced by a tongue tip that is too tense or tight. The result is a slight whistle and not a hissing sound (the correct sound).

Also a child may have a tongue thrust with a lisp. Only a speech language pathologist can make a



this diagnosis. Sometimes a child may distort an “S” word rather than an “S” sound. For instance they may substitute a “T” or a “TH” for “S”. Or, they eliminate the “S” entirely in “S blend” words such as tep/step or sairs/stairs. The child may eliminate “S” in other words (not blends) such as ell/sell or oup/soup.

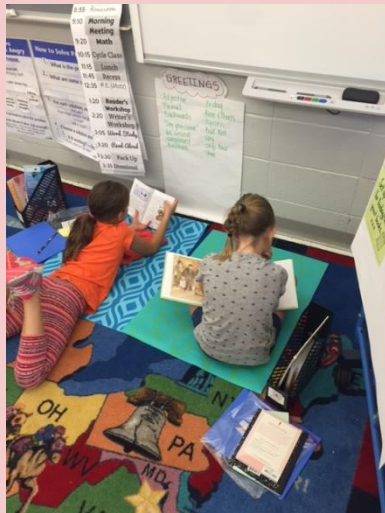
If you suspect your child is demonstrating any type of lisp and developmentally should be producing the “S” sound correctly, notify your classroom teacher first and they may contact the school speech language pathologist for advice.

Have a great school year-Mrs. Gesualdo



# Miss Flood's Flexible Seating

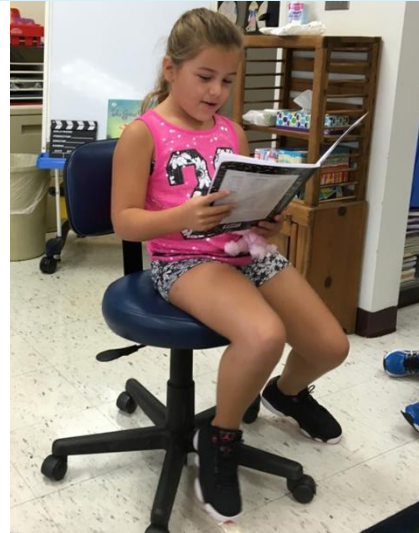
The beginning of the year is an exciting time for all students, but it is an especially exciting time for Miss Flood's third grade class. This year Miss Flood's class will be transitioning to flexible, or choice, seating. Currently, students can sit anywhere they'd like as long as it is a safe spot. Some of the exciting options currently available to students are cushion crate stools, yoga mats, carpets, metal stools, traditional chairs, and standing work spaces. Miss Flood's class is excited to add more seating choices throughout the year!



# Beanie Baby Adventures

## by Mrs. Baier's Second Graders

During Morning Meeting, students are scheduled to share an item or news from home on Cycle Days 1 through 5. On Cycle Day 6, sharing is a bit different. Students are sharing their Beanie Baby adventure writing from the previous night's homework. Each Day 5, five students are chosen at random to select a Beanie Baby from our classroom's "Beanie Baby Boulevard." The Beanie Baby is accompanied by a story journal and goes home with the student. Students write between one and three sentences and provide a picture (digital or hand-drawn illustration). The intent is twofold—motivation and skills practice. Students are motivated to write and speak publicly in front of the class. Both writing and public speaking skills are applied and practiced. Our first adventure writers did a fantastic job! Students are excited about this week's picks!



*Peri, sharing her story with the class.*



**Mrs. Francescone's First Graders** have started off the school year with a **POSITIVE MINDSET!** They understand that mistakes and challenges along the way coupled with a positive outlook will make them stronger in their attempts towards reaching their goals. We have read several Read -Alouds already that have an underlying message of "positive mindset." One of the first few days of school, they were given a **KEY** necklace to remind themselves that **THEY** hold the key to their own success! Our Reading, Writing and Math Workshop models are underway and we are now ready to embrace learning and reaching our goals! *Our Positive Selfie Goals* are on display in the showcase right outside the library!





# The Buzz From Mrs. Abey's Room

Kindergarteners are off to a great start and excited to join the Whiton Family. September brings lots of new fun as we learn about the rules and routines of our day. Whiton kindergarteners are already involved in Writer's Workshop and Reading Workshop. Ask any kindergartener how many parts there are in reading and writing workshop. Our beginning readers have learned that they can read the stories by paying attention to the illustrations and stopping to zoom into the tiny details in the illustrations. Our kindergarteners are also noticing that they see their sight words in the books they choose while building their reading stamina. Writer's Workshop taught us about what writers write. We have been writing lists, cards, and telling stories through pictures. Some of us have been adding to our writing by including labels in our pictures. Kindergarteners had fun learning all about John Chapman aka Johnny Appleseed. Did he really walk around wearing a cooking pot on his head? They thought it was very funny that he walked around planting apple seeds everywhere. Classmates were happy to have those yummy apple slices packed for their snacks. It's hard to believe that we are already a month into our kindergarten so check back again as Whiton's newest owls become a whole lot wiser.







## "Catching up" with the Summer slide!

Mrs. GERALYN Cecchin, Math Instructional Support  
teacher



The summer went by so quickly and before we all knew it, the time to head back to school was upon us! In the midst of all the summer fun, maybe math learning wasn't tops on the list. Researchers say that students can lose up to 1.8 months of math skills during the summer break.

Don't fret! In addition to the wonderful work that our teachers are doing to begin this school year, there are many fun ways that parents/caregivers can help to support their children's learning to start the year and beyond. The following activities can be easily incorporated into family life and routines. Kids may not even be aware they are learning and reinforcing skills because they are enjoying themselves so much!

Read a math story or play cards! Many card games are full of logic and math! Play a game and count up the number of points you received.

Take your child along to help with the grocery shopping. They can help count the money needed to pay or the change you get back.

Clip coupons together and calculate how much money will be saved in utilizing them.

Cooking and/or baking provide additional opportunities to use math at home. Help your child measure out the ingredients needed for the recipe and calculate things like the cooking time and how long it will be until it can be enjoyed by the whole family!

You can plan a family trip. Use Google maps to investigate journey distances and travel times! Play a travel game, like travel bingo during the journey. Look for and chart number words found on restaurant and/or store signs. Calculate arrival based on departure time and how long the trip is estimated to take. Estimate the costs of meals and what the tip should be!

Visit a museum. Depending on the type of museum you visit, browse around and highlight the different ways math is involved in the various sciences.

Of course there is always a wealth of material if you decide to use technology! Play online math games and/or watch a You Tube math video.

Whatever you decide to do, remember to have fun!! It will be time well spent for you and your child!



News from the

# Whiton ART Room



The Art Program is in full swing at Whiton! Preschool students are learning about **shapes** and colors. The kindergarten students are starting the year off learning about the color wheel. I have no doubt that they will all be **color** mixing experts by the end of December! This year, the first graders will be completing many projects with an **emphasis** on **texture**. The students have begun learning how to create texture using various techniques and tools. We will begin creating our tri-colored texture **collages** this week (*we learned that the prefix "tri" means three*)! Ask your first grader if he/she can remember some of the words that begin with "tri." Second graders are excited to begin their Aboriginal dot paintings. They are learning how to incorporate **rhythm, repetition, and movement** into our artwork to make it more interesting. The third graders are beginning to learn about the **expressionistic style** of Japanese Sumi-e ink paintings. We are learning how to create **value** in our painting using water to dilute our black ink. Keep an eye out for all of our amazing creations to be displayed throughout the Whiton hallways in the upcoming months!



see you in  
OCTOBER!



Welcome to Fall