



PRAIRIE NORTON

Fall Newsletter

September 15, 2017

Schools Out! Program in session!

The sound of “Schools out for the Summer” echoed through the empty halls. A group of teachers gathered to wave goodbye as the last bus pulled out of the Prairie Norton Elementary School. The school year was done, 4th graders had graduated and the teachers were ready for vacation! One week after the last day of school, the halls would be filled again with around 60 students from both Prairie Norton and Stiles Elementary. ESLAsC summer program was in session! So while the school year was done, ESLAsC kept going for 6 weeks to provide a place for learning, connection and a nutritious meal. At the end of the summer, we had served 456 meals, been on 4 field trips and had 5 weeks of sports clinics that included soccer, running and basketball instruction. We gathered together at the end of each day and not a day went by without someone sharing that their favorite part of the day was reading with Mr. Sam. Each day the student would spend 45 minutes in reading stations that included a leveled reading group with our beloved certified teacher, Mr. Sam.



Poverty Hurts. Kids can help!



“Poverty Hurts. Kids can Help.” was The Salvation Army’s “LemonAid” Campaign’s slogan and this summer our students raised \$152 dollars to help central Ohio children living in poverty. We’d like to thank the Giant Eagle on Broad for donating \$50 worth of lemonade supplies to help our students participate in the campaign. It was incredible to witness the commitment, initiative and collaboration that occurred among our students through this service learning project!

We continued to talk about how kids can be a force for change through the book “Alex and the Amazing Lemonade Stand”. The book is based on the true story of a little girl named Alex who was diagnosed with cancer and her desire to help other kids with cancer by holding a lemonade stand. The book also provided discussion questions to facilitate conversations about cancer and what kids can do to help. It was also exciting to learn that the lemonade purchased for our LemonAid campaign donates a portion of their proceeds to Alex’s foundation for Childhood Cancer.

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Community Partners

Our summer theme of “Building a Better World” continued as students made wildflower seed balls to beautify their neighborhoods and discussed to how even simple acts of kindness can transform

communities. There is so much kids can do to make a difference but we also wanted to learn about the roles of other community members. We invited “Franklin County Sheriff’s Office” and visited the “Prairie Township Fire Department” to learn how they are working to keep us safe!



Westland Area Library



We are also very grateful for the continued connection with the Westland Area Library that enriches our program in so many ways. This summer Ms. Jessica came and taught four different sessions on the writing process and guided the students in authoring and illustrating their own stories. She also read stories that modeled different writing styles and exposed the students to the incredible literary resources the library offers.

Summer Parent Event

Through our relationship with “Communities in Schools” we received a block of tickets to invite all of our families to come cheer on Columbus Crew as they played against Philadelphia Union on July 22nd. Community events like this are an integral part of our program’s foundation help to build trust and community among the program staff and families.

Third Grade Reading Guarantee

We were excited to find out that with the results from the multiple third grade reading assessments, **89 %** of the third graders that enrolled in ESLAsC at Prairie Norton met their promotion requirements of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee and are now 4th graders!

Coming Up!

September 25
October 19
October 26
November 21

First Day of Program
Family Game Night
Star Lanes Field Trip
Family Potluck