

Pluto Newsletter

January 6th – 15th

Phonics

We have been reviewing letters G,H,I and J. The children are tracing very well, and are able to write some of the letters by themselves. We also played recognition and phonics BINGO, and did some hand clapping activities to practice phonics.

Math

This month's concept is 'plus one'. Even though it is a little challenging, with practice the children did very well! We talked about the meaning of 'plus' and how we use it. We also reviewed 'Before' and 'After', using numbers on the white board.

Art

In 'Arts' class we made a unique tool box that can be carried around, with some tools inside. We practiced motions such as 'twist' and 'screw in', and vocabulary such as Drill, Screwdriver, Screws, Nails, Saw and Hammer before gluing them on the tool box.

P.E. & Health

From this month we started working on ball skills. In the first few weeks, our focus is on catching, which is one of the most difficult skills for children at this age group. We began by passing the ball over short distances at slow speeds in order to familiarize with the ball. We worked on trying to catch with our fingers or hands only and not with our forearms.

Fun Friday

Mochi pounding was a very exciting event this month!!! The children watched in amazement as the Teachers powerfully pounded away at the mochi.....The children used all their strength to pound, with the help of Mr Leigh at times. We then made balls, using a lot of starch for our hands, but we still got very sticky, and took us quite a while to get it off our hands.....The children had SO much mochi fun!!!

Also we experienced traditional Japanese new year activities, such as Fukuwarai and Karuta (in English, of course!). We even made our own kites to fly! We also talked about and practiced how we pray at shrines, so that we're ready for our visit next week.