

Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Dear Parents,

The month of January is quickly speeding by! The months seem to have flashed by us and it is amazing to think that grade 2 is almost halfway over!

In order to preserve these memories and take a snapshot of your child's extraordinary imagination at this age, we are going to be working on a class book. This is going to involve your child taking home our dinosaur friend, Dino-mite, and spending some time with him. Your child will be documenting his/her experiences with Dino-mite in the class book provided on the day that they take him home. They will have 3 days with Dino-mite, so they must make the most of their time! I welcome photos of your child with Dino-mite whilst they do the activities being written about. They might wish to indicate some of Dino-mite's favorite things as they learn more about him through play. For example, "Dino-mite loved to drink tea with his pinky out. He is a very fancy dinosaur." Or "Dino-mite snuggled me close because he was afraid of the dark." Their imaginations can fly sky high!

I have attached samples of some writing from last year that you can use as a guide. I will discuss my expectations with the class as well but, for your own information:

- A minimum of 1 page of writing and maximum of 2 pages of writing
- A drawing or photos that complement the written work
- An organized, detailed piece of writing that details the adventures that your child had with Dino-mite. Writing should be fluent, have juicy words (adjectives) and appropriate grammar (punctuation, capitalization etc.).
- A clear title, your child's full name and the date that they had their houseguests
- Neat, clear printing with appropriate spacing. Care should be taken to present their work in a way that is pleasing to the reader.
- **The writing must be done WHILE your child has the dinosaur and the journal must be returned on the last day (otherwise it will cut into the next child's time)**

Please do your best to remind your child about proper care for Dino-mite. We will be doing our best to ensure that he stays as pristine as possible. I understand that, as he is a stuffed toy, there is a chance that he could become soiled or lost. If this does happen during your visit, kindly get a replacement from Ikea before your time is up so that the next student will have their full visit with him. I believe that the total cost was 30AED.

I am looking forward to the amazing writing your little authors will turn in!

Feel free to email me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely Yours,

Joni Rieckmann