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# Room A-1 May Newsletter

## And Now the End is Near!

*We are getting close to the end of the year. Many things are happening as we work to end the school year.*

*I am working with students individually to assess their abilities and record information that will be given to you in their report card and will go into their portfolios to go with them to first grade.*

*The students have begun practicing for two important events, the*

*Mothers and Fathers Celebration and soon the Kinder Moving-On Ceremony. Celebrations in our lives are important to acknowledge important people and significant transitions in our lives.*

*But this time can bring up different feelings for some children. Be sure to maintain a consistent routine until the end of school. And watch your child for any changes in feelings towards school.*

*First grade is a mystery to them and they are leaving what is familiar. We will be visiting first grade to help them understand and prepare for this change.*

*As this year comes to an end, I want to thank you all for the support you have given me and your children. I have enjoyed working with each of the students this year and wish them all much success in the future.*

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Mr. Bill and Ms. Narsiza's Class

May 10, 2010

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### ☺ Remember:

- ☺ May 28 — Mothers and Fathers Celebration
- ☺ June 4 — field trip to Hacienda "El Calvario" in Aloag.
- ☺ June 11— ECC Field Day.
- ☺ June 18— Kinder Moving On Ceremony
- ☺ June 18 — last day of classes—noon dismissal.
- ☺ \*\*\*Please return all library books as soon as possible.

*Please take note of the dates and activities listed above. I hope to see you in attendance.*

## Our PYP Unit

Sharing the Planet

*We have begun our last PYP unit of inquiry entitled Diversity of Life. This is an in-*

*quiry into how people, animals, and plants impact each other. We will explore what living*

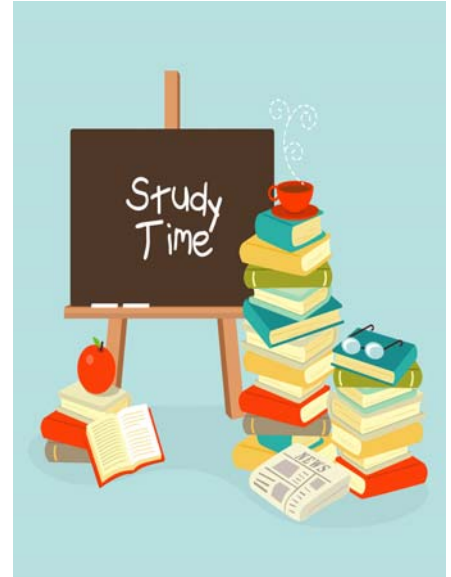
## PYP Unit of Inquiry

*things need to live, how living things depend on each other, and our responsibility towards living things.*

Some teacher questions for this unit are: What is the different between living and non-living? What do living things need in order to live? How do

*living things depend on each other? How are living things different? How can we care for living things?*

*We will be focusing mainly on pets and farm animals in this inquiry.*



### Math

*In math we are now focusing on story problems. The students are challenged to identify what information they really need to make a math problem from a given story problem and to provide the right answer. We are finishing up with telling time and continue to work*

*with counting money. The biggest challenge with counting money is making the transition from dime to nickel such as 10 cents, plus a nickel is 15 cents. This is a huge developmental leap at this age and a lot of practice is required. In centers students are working with exploring measurement*

*instruments and using non-standard units to measure length and volume as well as weighing with balance scales.*

*Some current math vocabulary: long, short, wide, thick, thin, tall, narrow, heavy, light, hot, cold, ruler, thermometer, balance scale, and clock.*

### Language Arts

*We continue our daily spelling practice, and students are using what they have learned in their writing and reading. We are about to conclude with the last of the vowels and the more obscure letters/sounds such as q and x.*

*We have been focusing on using correct writing conventions such*

*as, beginning sentences with capital letters, leaving spaces, and using punctuation. The children have had center activities focusing on these skills as well as small groups guided by a teacher. The results have been showing up in their writing in writers' workshop as they write stories.*

*I see students becoming*

*more capable in our guided reading groups. Students should use various strategies to read and figure out words. Does it match the picture, does a particular word make sense in a sentence, can I sound it out, can I skip the word and finish the sentence to see what makes sense?*





