



# Classroom News

What's going on in 1A? *Share this information with you child...*

**Theme Studies:** The class just completed their natural study of the life cycle of a butterfly. Through personal observations the students noticed the changes of the butterfly's life cycle: we saw them change from an egg to a hungry-tiny caterpillar, to a chrysalis, and finally to a colorful butterfly. This was an exciting project that provided a hands-on educational learning experience.



Shy'Leah made an edible butterfly using celery, peanut butter, and raisins. YUMMY!



We sang songs about butterflies, to our class pets.

Nia looked at the pretty colors. She was very excited to look at the butterfly up-close.



Takiel was not afraid to hold the butterfly!

**E.L.A:** We are finishing our final Literacy unit (Unit 5: Machines). In this unit students have been discussing how machines are important inventions that make our life easier. Next week we will work on our last selection text as we read a biography of Benjamin Franklin and his contributions to the world.

**Math:** In math we are  $\frac{1}{2}$  way through our Chapter 9 (Counting Money). This is a very hard concept for students to grasp. The best way to learn it is by allowing your child to have personal experiences with counting money. Doing the homework is essential, of course; but also play lots of games. Any game that requires counting is great. Work up to more challenging games. Give your child a small allowance. Counting money with the plan to spend it on something special is motivating. Count with them – by 1's, 2's, 5's and 10's.

Here is some other **easy** ways to practice counting money:

- Bring your child shopping with you. Have them count your change after paying at the cash register.
- Have them save your spare change, place them in a piggy-bank (or safe place) and count the money every night (or after adding a new amount).

**Check out these computer websites with fun interactive counting money games:**

<http://www.homeschoolmath.net/online/money.php>

[http://www.vectorkids.com/vkcoincount\\_content.html](http://www.vectorkids.com/vkcoincount_content.html)

<http://www.tvokids.com/framesets/play.html?game=161&>

[http://www.harcourtschool.com/activity/lets\\_compare/](http://www.harcourtschool.com/activity/lets_compare/)

[http://www.coe.uh.edu/archive/math/math\\_lessons/mathles3/pen2.htm](http://www.coe.uh.edu/archive/math/math_lessons/mathles3/pen2.htm)

**Other News.....**

We are planning our end of the year (field trip) celebration to Frear Park for Friday June 19. This will be an all-day field trip. We will need chaperons to join us. Please let us know if you are interested.