

**Horse Room – am class**  
**January 2019**

Happy New Year from the Horse Room! It is so good to have everyone back. The children were excited to share what they have been up to and seemed glad to be back with their friends. We welcomed two new three-year-old friends to our classroom this month. Jesse and Jayce are fitting right in!

In December the children enjoyed learning about the animal kingdom. We started with all animals that come from eggs, focusing mainly on fish, amphibians, and reptiles. The children enjoyed our unit on dinosaurs. We are now moving on to animals born live – mammals.

We have been adding a gem to our “days of school” jar each day and the 100<sup>th</sup> day is rapidly approaching. This year 100 day falls on **January 28<sup>th</sup>**. We are asking each child to bring in 100 items in a Ziploc bag on that day. We have been practicing counting to 10 in ten different languages. Please encourage your child to count the 100 items at home. It may be helpful to have them make ten piles of ten, if they can’t yet count to 100. Some suggestions for sharing – 100 paper clips, 100 Legos, 100 hair bows, 100 cheerios! All items will be returned to you on 101 day.

In addition, we will be doing a food drive for the Eastern Illinois Food Bank in January. You will receive a note from the office that further explains this project. Last year the horse room collected 100 items by the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school! Your child is encouraged to bring in canned or boxed food anytime between now and the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. We are hoping each child will bring in 5 food items this month. Thank you for your help.

Remember, empathy is innate, but it is best when nurtured. Having children donate from a young age teaches them that even the smallest child can make a big difference in the lives of others. They will learn that it’s okay to accept help if you need it and that you don’t have to experience tragedy to have compassion for others.

On **February 7th** we will be having an informative meeting about our kindergarten program. “What is Kindergarten” is geared toward parents who will have a child turning 5 before September 1, 2018. However, all parents are welcome to attend.

Julie Warren

