2-1-16

Dear Julia Green K-2 Encore Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you made some great memories with your families! This link: <https://1516mrssneedsencore.shutterfly.com/pictures> (password: encore) shows pictures of what your children have been up to this fall. Encore students were studying Newtons’ Laws of Motion. We learned and gave examples of **Newton’s 1st Law of Motion**: a body in motion stays in motion unless acted on by an outside force. Using seat belts is a great example of why this is important. **Newton’s 2nd Law of Motion** is **Force = Mass x Acceleration.** Anexample would be if your car ran out of gas, you’d need greater **force** to push a car (greater **mass**) than a motorcycle to a gas station. The greater the **acceleration** the greater the **force** needed. We applied **Newton’s 3rd Law of Motion:** for every action there is an opposite and equal reaction in our rocket launch.

K students made tangram rockets. 1st and 2nd grade Encore students made their own antacid rockets and wrote directions on how to make and launch them. In our rocket launch, as the pressure inside the rocket built, it pushed down on the ground and the ground pushed back shooting off the rocket. If you try this at home, use film canisters with lids that go partially inside the canister (for a tight seal). Fill the canister ¼ full of water and put a 1/3 tablet of fresh antacid in the lid. Snap the lid shut and insert the canister into the rocket with the lid end touching the ground. In 60 - 90 seconds the lid pops off and the rocket goes 6-9 ft. in the air.

 Your 1st and 2nd grade children did an outstanding job in their Hour of Code with me. They can use the Hour of Code links on my JG webpage (under Encore Links in Hour of Code) to continue their **Star Wars and Minecraft coding projects**. Through May 2016, they can access it from home at https://code.org/learn Students wrote in their Code reflections they were proud of themselves for doing a very challenging activity.

After the holidays, students made a moon phase dial. We demonstrated rotate is a spin in place (moon on its axis). Revolution is a path an object takes around another object (moon around the earth). We wrapped up our Space unit with a Smithsonian Lesson on proportional size of the universe. K students read the book Space in 30 Seconds. 1st and 2nd did a Space Kahoot test on the computer. We saw pictures of many new products made from NASA technology. Stay tuned, math games and Psychology of the Brain start this month.

Thank you for the opportunity of seeing your children think critically, be risk-takers and reflect on their growth in learning, leadership and compassion for others. I’m very proud of them.

My Best, Nancy Sneed M. Ed K-4 Encore Teacher Julia Green, Waverly Belmont and Haywood http://juliagreenencore.weebly.com/