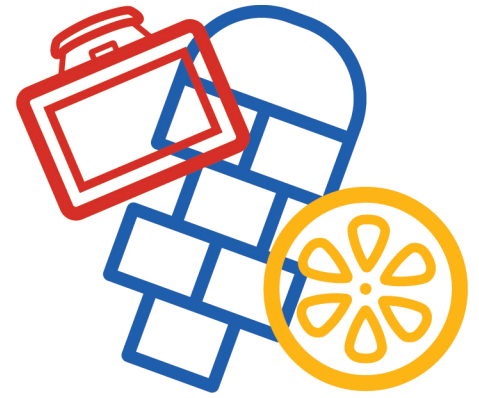


extended school enrichment

NEWS & VIEWS



Summer Birthday party

Having a birthday in the summer months can be a lot of fun. You have pool parties, ice cream and water balloon fights. But having a summer birthday can also be a bummer because you cannot celebrate with all your friends at school. At West Clay ESE we wanted to help the kids that have a summer birthday (June, July and August) to celebrate a little with their friends and feel special too. We had our largest birthday party to date with 34 kids being sung too at the top of their lungs and received a birthday certificate. The kids that were here for the party today were; Ava, Dylan, Baden, Megan, Lillienne, Lilia, Ava, Amaya, Lauren, Eloise, Aria, Elias, Rocco, Brayden, Brian, Annabelle, Lash, Lithika, Urav, Austin, Ethan, Josie, Jackson, Kevin, Maraya, Vessy, Sam, Charlotte, Abhiraj, Ellie, Ella, Evans, Ariel and Nick. There were several kids that missed the party today and will have to celebrate when they get back. Those kids are: Lauren, Fazel, Rafael, Lillian, Nithya, Jackson, Owen, Maggie, Oliver, Chase, Owen, Henry, Sofia, Katie, Parker, Lauren, Gilbert, Brelond, Kyla, Alexander, Fiona, Maanvi, and Harper. Some of the kids seemed to be a little embarrassed to be up front but I think they secretly liked to be the center of attention for once.

Kindergarten Club- more than just homework

ESE consists of 6 grades. Our youngest group being the kindergartners. This pint sized group is young but mighty and they are hungry to soak up any information and social behaviors that they can. One aspect of our program is homework. However, typically the kindergarten group does not have homework until the second semester. So we have to get creative to keep these little guys engaged and moving during homework. Kindergarten homework time or k-club starts with a restroom break. We split the kiddos up here, those that need to use the restroom and those that don't head to the gym. We are trying to teach the kids routine. So every day we walk into the gym and balance on the blue line and neatly lay the backpacks in a row. Then it is story time. Each student finds a dot and sits crisscross apple sauce and waits for their friends to find a spot. We have been doing audio books so far and the kids really seemed to enjoy the m and are engaged. In the coming months we may alternate audio books and reading a book aloud. After the story, we usually do stations or try to teach them a game. The kids love the stations for the most part and seem to like to be able to have the freedom to be creative. Some of the stations that we have tried so far are: jenga block build, legos, shapes, matching, and dominoes. On the days that we don't do stations we teach them games that they may see in club time, some of them they have never have heard of. Some of the games we have taught them so far are: various tags games, dodge ball, switch, and circle games. After the activities are over all the kids help clean up. Then they put their backpacks in the back hall and head outside for a much needed recess time. We have really enjoyed getting to know all the different personalities of this energetic group of kiddos. We can't wait to see how much they learn and grow this school year.

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