Dear Pre-K Parents,

Students have begun their inquiry into **How the World Works** to explore, observe and communicate about the world around us. Students will become familiar with the scientific method by asking questions, formulating hypotheses, gathering materials, recording observations and sharing conclusions. With these skills, students will discover how to learn to think scientifically. In particular, the Pre-K students will be inquiring into light, water, sound or matter as they explore principles such as reflection/refraction, sinking/floatation, vibrations and phases of matter. If you have a background in or interest in scientific experimentation and would like to contribute, please reach out to your classroom teacher if you would like to share during a Zoom session.

**From French-English Pre-K Team: Emeline, Cécile and Jodi**
Transdisciplinary Unit: How the World Works

An inquiry into the natural world and its laws; the interaction between the natural world (physical and biological) and human societies; how humans use their understanding of scientific principles; the impact of scientific and technological advances on society and on the environment.

Central Idea

Through exploring, observing and communicating, we learn to think scientifically.

What We Will Inquire Into

- How manipulating water, light, sound or matter allows us to discover scientific principles
- How observing transformation and change teaches key science skills
- How we use the scientific process

Math + Literacy Connections

- Data handling skills
- Numeracy skills
- Measurement: understand that attributes of real objects can be compared and described, for example, longer, shorter, heavier, empty, full, hotter, colder
- Nonfiction texts
- Gaining scientific vocabulary
- Note-taking and observation recording
- Understand positional words-under, over, between.
How You Can Help at Home

- **Ongoing:** Help your child run experiments at home, share experiments and resources with your class, send in your child’s big wonderings e.g. “Why is the Sky Blue?”. Post your child’s experiments on Toddle
- Engage your child in cooking/baking, sharing with them the process and steps with opportunity to reflect on how the ingredients have transformed/changed (e.g. cheese melting, baking cakes)
- Play with shadows, encouraging to manipulate their reflections
- Bring this unit into your bath time routine, exploring water, bubbles, temperature and dilution with color
- Build a fort with your child and experiment with flashlights, glow in the dark objects
- Take your child on a nature/neighborhood walk and use your 5 senses to explore the world around you. When you get back home, encourage your child to reflect on their exploration.