

WEEK 20 **Respecting Property**



Dear Parent/Guardian,

For Your Heart

When children are responsible for picking up after themselves, they learn to appreciate their space and their possessions. This week, first graders are learning:

- Why it is important to pick up after themselves
- Why it is important to take care of their belongings
- To keep their classroom organized and clean

Ask your child to teach you the following chant from one of their favorite Merryville characters, Cap'n Nick:

*If you open it, close it,
If you turn it on, turn it off.
If you unlock it, lock it.*

*If you spill it, clean it up.
If you take it out, put it back.
If you break it, fix it.*

For the Heart of Your Child

Here are a few opportunities for you to reinforce at home what your child is learning about respecting property at school:

- Insist your child picks up after him/herself. Even if you must give several reminders, make sure it is your child who is picking up.
- Make sure your child helps clean up their mess at a friend's house before coming home.
- It takes longer to get things done, but if you encourage your children to help with cleanup at home, they will be more appreciative and will learn to share in other duties as they grow up.
- Set a good example for your children. They will learn to appreciate their belongings if they observe the way you take care of your things and see how you pick up after yourself.

From Our Hearts to Yours,



PS Don't forget to ask about APPRECIATION and RESPONSIBILITY!

APPRECIATION—Recognizing value in people, places and things

RESPONSIBILITY—Following through on my work without being reminded

