Dear Families:

Today, we worked with 10 frames while counting marshmallows for our hot chocolate. A 10 frame is a simple graphic tool that enables children to “see” numbers, keep track of counting, see number relationships, learn addition to 10 and understand place value.

Understanding that numbers are composed of tens and ones is an important foundational concept that sets the stage for later work with larger numbers. We have been working with the children to help them develop a strong working knowledge of 10. Understanding “10” is a prerequisite for understanding place value.

The 10 frame is an array of two rows of five boxes. Placing counted objects in the 10 frame enables the children to easily see that 6 is 1 more than 5 and 4 is less than 10. Once the children can visualize the numbers 1-10 by using their ten frames, they will begin to develop a solid number sense.

You can continue this lesson at home by downloading free ten frame graphics online or making your own.

Happy counting!