Dear Families:

Today, we used the classic fairy tale, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, to teach the children about measurement, an important basic math skill.

We used beans to help the children learn about the meaning of size, height and length and how to measure items in their everyday lives.

One of the basic measuring skills that we have been focusing on is a direct comparison of two objects. The objective of this step is to directly compare the attributes of two or more objects to establish, for example, which object is longer, heavier or holds more.

When comparing three or more objects, the objects can be ordered. This is important, because comparison skills are needed to meaningfully describe length, weight and time. For example, “my pencil is long" does not have a lot of meaning. But "my pencil is longer than yours” is meaningful.

During our lesson, the children measured their hands with beans, compared their hand sizes and then compared their small hands to the much bigger hand of the giant in Jack and the Beanstalk.

This is a very easy skill to reinforce at home in a multitude of ways.

Happy measuring!