

## First Grade News

October 16, 2017

Dear Parents,

We hope that you had a wonderful weekend with your children. Please be reminded that there is an **Early Dismissal at 1:40pm on Tuesday and Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>** due to Professional Development and Conferences.

### **Word Work**

This week we are finishing up our "Special Person of the Day" shares. We have learned so much about your children through this activity.

Next week we will begin to introduce weekly word wall words. There will be more information regarding word wall words and Monday homework in next week's newsletter.

### **Reading**

The last bend in our current reading unit will focus on print strategies that were first introduced in Kindergarten. Today we began by learning that good readers may have to use more than one strategy when figuring out a tricky word. Overall, readers ask themselves three very important questions:

- \*Does it make sense?
- \*Does it sound right?
- \*Does it look right?

### **Parent Readers**

Thank you to the families that have already signed up through Sign Up Genius to be a Parent Reader. We encourage every family to choose at least one date since it means a lot to your first grader to see you in the classroom. Please follow the link below to sign up for an open slot!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f48a5aa2aa4fc1-parent>

## **Writing**

We have been studying the craft moves of the author George McClements in the story *Night of the Veggie Monster*. It is an adorable story about a little boy's reaction to being served peas as a part of his dinner. Today we learned that one craft move writers use is telling the exact actions people do. In the story, George McClements wrote the exact actions the little boy took with his body: the little boy's toes twist and curl up in his shoes. He squirms in his seat. He starts to transform. George could have written, 'My body doesn't like it when I eat the pea,' but that would not have had the same effect. All of those exact actions George wrote really pull the reader into the story and help make a movie in our minds.

## **Math**

This week we are starting a new Bridges Math Unit of study; *Developing Strategies with Dice and Dominoes*. We will work with dominoes, dot cards and the number rack to help children develop confidence with efficient, effective and sensible strategies for adding and subtracting single digit numbers. Students will subitize common dot arrangements such as those found on dominoes and dice. We will explore strategies like counting on, combining small groups of numbers within larger numbers, using doubles facts to solve other addition problems and counting by 5s and 10s. What fun we will have in math!

## **Science**

We hope you're helping your child to take good care of their lima bean plant. This week we will continue to review plant parts and their functions.

Sincerely,  
Allison Hafford  
Debbie Jacobs