

First Grade News

October 24, 2016

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 Wednesday, October 26 and Thursday, October 27** due to Conferences.

Healthy Snack

We ask that children bring a healthy snack and water bottle to school each day to give them the energy they need. We respectfully ask that candy and treats be enjoyed at **home!**

Word Work:

The new words for this week are: this, we, went, be, am. Please use the Word Wall menu to complete at least 3 activities this week.

Reading:

We will be visited this week by the Jennings School Storytellers. It is always so excited to hear many wonderful stories that these parents have prepared! You will also be receiving your child's Tuesday night reading baggie for the first time this week. Please read the book with your child, and send it back into school the next day. This is a book that your child and his/her teacher has worked on in his/her small group instruction. Please feel free to write in the parent communication journal if you would like to highlight your child, or if you have any noticings or questions.

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. Last week 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!

Homework: We will be sending your child's Home Connections workbook home from school. We will send this book home on occasion for Math Homework. Please have your child only complete the assigned page/s. Please do not complete any of the other pages in the book. Please return the book to school in the baggy the very next day. Thank you for your help with this!

Our first assignment will be this Thursday pages 1 and 2.

Health

We are beginning our second unit in Second Steps called Empathy. The goal of this unit is to develop students' ability to have empathy and show compassion for others.

Being able to identify, understand, and respond in a caring way to how someone is feeling provides the foundation for helpful and socially responsible behaviors, friendships, cooperation, coping, and conflict resolution, all of which help students succeed in school.

Halloween:

We will be participating in the Jennings Halloween parade. Children are invited to wear their costumes to school on Monday, October 31st. You may want to send your child to school with clothes he/she can change into if the costume is uncomfortable or (too distracting). For everyone's safety, we are asking that weapons, masks and dangerous apparatus be left at home.

Respectfully yours,
Abigail Barzottini
Allison Cabezas
Debbie Jacobs

