

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 28 and Thursday, October 29 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. There will be a word wall quiz on Friday.

Reading

We would like to send a huge 'Thank You' to the Jennings School Storytellers. They shared some wonderful stories with 1B and 1J. They will be telling stories with 1C tomorrow. The students always look forward to the stories!

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 will be starting a new unit. Please see below for more information.

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.

Character Assembly & Halloween

We will be participating in the Jennings Halloween parade. Children are invited to wear their costumes to school on Friday, October 30th. The parade will begin after the Character Assembly at 2:15pm.

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

**Please see the Math information below.

Grade 1 – Unit 2

We are beginning Unit 2: Whole Number Concepts, Estimation and Computation using Addition and Subtraction within Twenty. In this unit students will focus on strategies that involve composing numbers (putting together) and decomposing numbers (breaking apart). Through a series of investigations students will develop a deeper understanding of equivalence. Students will understand that numbers can be grouped in a variety of ways or presented in a different order, and the quantity will stay the same. Students will develop automaticity of facts by focusing on number relationships and will use benchmark numbers to develop efficient strategies for computing. Students will solve and write addition and subtraction story problems.

Some examples of the work your child will be doing are:

- Students will develop an understanding of equivalence.
 - Example: $4 + 8 = 7 + \underline{\quad}$
- Students will count to 120 starting at any number less than 120
- Students will find all the combinations of a given number.
 - Example: Find the combinations to make 15.
- Students will use a variety of strategies to develop automaticity of facts.
Examples:
 - Doubles facts: $4 + 4 = 8$
 - Near doubles: $7 + 8 =$
 $(7 + 7) + 1 = 15$ or
 $(8 + 8) - 1 = 15$
 - Counting on: $6 + 2$ can be thought of as 6 plus 2 more (7, 8)
 - Making ten: $8 + 6 = (8 + 2) + 4 = 14$
 - Compensation: $4 + 9 = 3 + 10$
- Students will investigate the inverse relationship between addition and subtraction.
 - Example: If $3 + 8 = 11$ then $11 - 8 = 3$
- Students will compose and decompose numbers through 20 using algebraic properties.
Examples:
 - Commutative Property: $8 + 5 = 5 + 8$
 - Associative Property: $7 + 6 + 3 = (7 + 3) + 6 = 16$

- Students will solve addition and subtraction story problems.
- Students will use benchmark numbers to solve problems more efficiently.
 - Example: $5 + 7$ could be thought of as $(5 + 5) + 2$

Here is how you can help your child while our class is working on this unit:

- Practice basic addition and subtraction facts.
- Play games that reinforce addition and subtraction strategies.
- Reinforce strategies that help your child think flexibly about numbers. Encourage them to think about how to compose and decompose numbers.
- Use benchmark numbers like 5 or 10 to help solve problems mentally.
 - Example: $7 + 8 = 7 + (3 + 5) = (7 + 3) + 5$
- Encourage your child to explain her/his thinking as she/he solves problems. By explaining her/his thinking your child will be reinforcing her/his understanding of concepts and skills.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's teacher or the Math Science Teacher.

For additional information, take a look at the Fairfield Public School Parent Guide at <http://fairfieldpublicschools.k5math.wikispaces.com/home>