

First Grade News

October 9, 2017

Dear Parents,

***Please remember that conferences start next week. Your child will be coming home this week with a specific date and time for your conference. We have made every effort to schedule your conference according to your preference. Please complete the form and return it with your child as soon as possible!

Parent Readers:

Thank you to our room parents for sending out the info for Parent Reader. Below is a link to Sign Up Genius. You can click on it and pick a date that you, your spouse, or a grandparent would be available to read to our class. We do not do birthday readers in first grade so this is a great substitution. You can sign up more than one time (multiple dates). When it is your turn to come in to read to the class make sure to bring at least 5-6 picture books with you. This is your turn to read so the first graders will be ready to listen (no need to prepare lessons, questions, or activities). The children are learning what fluent reading sounds like and you will be our model ;)! We encourage every parent to choose at least one date since it means a lot to your first grader to see you in the classroom.

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

Reading:

The past few weeks have been very exciting during reading! The children have started to read books that are at their "just right" level. They will keep these books that they have personally "shopped" for in their book bins. When it is time to partner read, they take their book bins with them and meet in a special place to read together. We have also begun Small Group Instruction. This is where we pull small groups of children who are reading on or around the same level or who have similar reading behaviors. We will use this time to teach more individualized lessons on decoding skills and

comprehension strategies. The children will be able to take home some of their "just right" books and their book from their Small Group Instruction group to celebrate for Reading Homework on Tuesdays. Beginning this week, on some Tuesdays, your child will bring home a Ziploc bag with a book in it. Have your child share these books with you at home. You will also find a Parent Comment Book that you may use to write comments or questions about your child's reading. Please remember that we will do our best to write back, but it won't come home to you until the following Tuesday. You do not have to write in the journal every week BUT please remember to send the bag (with all of its contents) back with your child the very next day!

Writing

Last week we taught the children different ways to *Bring Stories to Life*. Here is a classroom poster that we use in the classroom.



Math Workshop

Last week all of our investigations focused on exploring the idea of doubles ($1+1=2$, $2+2=4$). We are now seeing doubles in everyday life. When we go shopping at the grocery store, we can see doubles when we buy eggs, juice

boxes or packs of water. Oh, what fun it is to explore doubles! Here is a link to a fun song that we watched in the classroom to help reinforce doubles.

Doubles Rap

<https://safeshare.tv/submit?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DjG6n5xLt-0Q>

How you can help: practice skip counting by 2s, 5s and 10s and continue to practice doubles facts.

Sincerely,
Allison Hafford
Debbie Jacobs