

Dear Parents,

We would like to thank all of the Veterans, who came into the classrooms to talk about Veteran's Day. We really learned a lot! Thank you for taking the time to teach our children about this important holiday!

**Word Work:**

The new words for this week are: **that, said, how, on, here**. Please use the Word Wall menu to complete at least 3 activities this week. During our Word Study this month, we have been focusing on the guiding question: How does attending to sounds and letters help build more flexible readers and writers? This week we will be talking about beginning consonant clusters, like sn as in snake.

**Reading:**

We have continued our nonfiction unit of study and learned that not all nonfiction books look the same. The students have learned about biographies, how to and all about books. They have also started to explore the various features that nonfiction books have to offer, such as a table of contents, photographs and section headings. This week we will continue to explore more nonfiction features.

**Writing:**

We have continued to write teaching books during our Nonfiction unit. Many times we see that as children write informational books, they often write just one sentence, almost a topic sentence, on each page before heading to the next page. Writing several sentences on a page before starting the next page is important work for first graders at this point in the year. There are many ways to teach children to say more. One way to help them elaborate is have them think about the questions readers will ask and then put answers to those questions into their books. We teach them that people want details. They want to know what things look like, for example, and that means they'll ask about numbers, sizes, shapes, and colors. They want to know how things work, and they'll ask about what happens first, next, and so on...

**Turkey Project:**

Please send in the family turkey project, if you have not already done so. The turkeys were due yesterday, November 14th.

Respectfully yours,  
Abigail Barzottini  
Allison Cabezas  
Debbie Jacobs