

## First Grade News

February 13, 2017

Dear Parents,

Wow... The weather is certainly changing! We hope you had fun in the snow! Here's our news!

### **Valentine's Day**

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day with the students on Tuesday February 14th. We will be handing out valentines to our classmates! We sent home a list of your child's class. If you would like your child to participate, please make sure to make a valentine for each person in the class. Please remember to send in cards with no food attached. It is not too late to send in valentines with your child for tomorrow.

### **Phonics/Penmanship**

Your child will be coming home with a Word Wall Word List that covers all the words that we have introduced so far this year. Please have your child practice these words at home. Your child should be able to read and spell these words in a snap!

### **Reading**

At this point in the year, it's obvious to us as teachers, the growth in our students' reading development, and how it has positively affected them. In the beginning of the year, everything needed to be read to the students such as directions to complete activities, stories, labels, signs and the simplest things we take for granted. This of course caused the children to be dependent on us to understand what was expected of them. Now it is the most wonderful feeling as we see our students becoming more independent and taking pride in their autonomy. They read directions on their own, they read the calendar and know the date, they read around the school, and they read books all the time! In fact, they are willing to attempt to read anything and everything! It is so clear how their reading growth has increased their level of confidence, which ultimately has empowered them. The children see for themselves how learning to read enables them to be independent, self-assured and to feel more grown up!

### **Spring Party**

The first graders will be making tie-dyed t-shirts for their upcoming spring party on **Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**. We will wear the shirts on our upcoming field trips. Thank you to the parents that signed up to volunteer at the party. We would love to have as

many hands as possible to make each session go smoothly. Here is the schedule for each class:

1:30-2:00pm Mrs. Jacobs

2:00-2:30pm Mrs. Barzottini

2:30-3:00pm Mrs. Cabezas

### **Upcoming Field Trips**

Mark your calendars! We have two upcoming field trips this spring. Permission slips and more information will be coming home closer to the date. All parents are welcome to join both trips!

#### **\*We will be visiting the Birdcraft Sanctuary.**

Mrs. Barzottini's Class will be going on Thursday 4/20 from 1:30-2:45

Mrs. Cabezas' Class will be going on Friday 4/21 from 10:00-11:15

Mrs. Jacobs' Class will be going on Friday 4/21 from 1:00-2:15

#### **\*We will be visitning the Beardsley Zoo**

All 3 classes will be going on Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:15-1:15. (Rain date is June 2<sup>nd</sup>).

Respectfully yours,  
Abigail Barzottini  
Allison Cabezas  
Debbie Jacobs