

Dear Parents,

First Grade is a very busy place! There is so much excitement with all our newly introduced academic units!

Mrs. Cabezas had a baby boy named Brady Hansen. He is 7 lbs, 4 oz. We are so excited to welcome Brady into his new family!

Conferences

Teachers are working on coordinating conferences for families. Every effort will be made to meet with you at your preferred time. However, please note that only one evening conference is scheduled.

Phonics/Penmanship

The words for the week are: **from, did, eat, teacher, kick**. Students should complete at least 3 activities from the spelling menu. Miss P loads all of our new words into Spelling City each week, so you may want to give it a try! There are many fun games to help review all of the words! This website can be found on the Jennings Virtual Library.

We will also start to learn about contractions.

Reading

We have begun a new unit called Bringing Stories to Life through Fairy Tales and Folktales. This week we will be identifying story elements and looking for narrative patterns in tales. How Can You Help: If you have any folktales/fairy tales at home, please send them to your child's class to enjoy during reading. Please be sure that your child's name is on the book. **Don't forget to keep track of your reading minutes at home for the Reading Incentive Program!!!! Today is the first day of the program! This means that on Monday, March 12 week 1 minutes are due! All minutes spent reading at home during the week and on weekends can be included. Grade 1 has a goal of 75 minutes per week! See the website for more details!

Writing

We have had so much fun during Writing Workshop! The students brought in 2 of their favorite books from home and are busy working on writing their reviews of them. The enthusiasm that the students have is absolutely incredible.

Math

This week we will be starting *Geometry*! We will start to name and introduce different two dimensional shapes and brainstorm different ways to describe them. We will start to notice color, size, shape, and talk about how these are attributes and that attributes describe characteristics of things. We will talk about why attributes are important and how they help us organize or group things. What a great start we will have in *Geometry*!

Science

We just began learning about the rainforest. Each student picked an animal that they would like to study. They will soon start to take notes about the animal's habitat, prey, predator, description and some interesting facts. They will then work on typing what they have learned on the computer. The end product will be a hardcover book all about their animal.

Spring Party

We would like to extend our thanks to Mrs. Helmer and all of the Room Moms and volunteers who helped to make the Spring Tie-Dye party a great success. Many students have already started to wear them in school. They look so sharp and vibrant! We will wear the shirts on our upcoming field trips and at our end of the year party.

Upcoming Field Trips

Mark your calendars! We have two upcoming field trips this spring. Permission slips will be coming home today, please return them as soon as possible. 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 26th from 10:15-1:15. (Rain date is June 2nd).

Respectfully yours,

Abigail Barzottini

Debbie Jacobs

Katie Grady

