

April 24, 2017

## First Grade News

Dear First Grade Parents,

We hope you had a wonderful week. We hope you can join us for the assembly on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:30. The first graders will be singing a special rainforest song. Thank you to all the parents that were able to come and help out at the bird craft museum. The kids had so much fun!

### **Word Work**

The new words for the week are: **brother, people, talk, rain, off**. Please help your child practice these words all week!

### **Reading**

We are beginning to wrap up our Fairytales and Folktales Unit of study. We will be talking about "Argument Talk Rules". We will state an argument question and students will choose a side. Students will then have an opportunity to caucus with their side. They will name the evidence that supports their argument, and they will have a debate with their peers and decided what their BEST and STRONGEST evidence is! Wow, reading can be so much fun!

### **Writing**

We are well into becoming authors of series books. Yes, your 6 or 7-year-old will start to create a series of books. Don't worry, this doesn't mean they have to create forty books in a series, as the author of the Magic Tree House did! It means that once your child has invested some creative energy into a character, he/she can keep going with that character for a while, putting that character into new situations. We are also learning how to bring their stories to life by making their characters do something and say something. They have learned how to use dialogue tags to show strong feelings and how to use actions and gestures to show movement. Wow, we are taking on so much as authors and we love it!

## **Science**

A representative from Roaring Brook will come to visit us on Friday. He will talk about the life cycle of frogs. We will get to see some exciting different frogs, and we will get to feed them meal worms! What a fun experience for the kids! We will also get our very own tadpoles to keep in our classroom. We will observe them every day and write down our noticings.

The Beardsley Zoomobile came last week to first grade. A representative from the zoo brought live rain forest animals into each classroom for a presentation for the kids. We got to see hissing cockroaches and so much more! We would like to thank Mrs. D'Andrea for organizing this wonderful experience for the kids!

## **Memory Books**

Your child's Memory Book Assignment came home last week. Please plan on working on at least one memory a night in order to get it done. This is a very fun activity and your child will love receiving their book at the end of the year! However, waiting too close to the due date will cause a lot of unnecessary stress on your child. Please be sure that all memories are positive and send a "bucket filling" message!

**Author's Tea:** Our annual Author's Tea will take place on **June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>** at **11:15-11:55**. Please send back your date preference sheet at your earliest convenience,

**\*We will be visitning the Beardsley Zoo** All three classes will be going on Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:15-1:15. The rain date is June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Katie Grady  
Debra Jacobs  
Abigail Barzottini

