

## First Grade News

September 15, 2015

Dear Parents,

Our first grade newsletter will be solely on Infinite Campus starting next Monday. Please contact the office or your child's teacher with any problems.

### Word Work/Phonics

As we begin our journey toward literacy for all students, we will start with what's most important to all 6 and 7 year olds-themselves! We will spend the next few weeks of school looking closely at each child's name. We will use this opportunity to develop some important understandings about words and letters. Last week we began having a "Special Person of the Day". Every day a different student will become the special person of the focus of many literacy activities. We're sure you'll hear more about this when it is your child's day!

### Reading Workshop

We have begun the launching of Reading Workshop. This is where we lay the groundwork for the reading work we want the children to do throughout the year and beyond by teaching them about the habits of good readers, such as the importance of reading every day, how to work with partners and how to talk about books. We will also use this time to get to know your children as readers, teach them early print strategies and reinforce their knowledge of letter-sound relationships and phonics. WOW! That's a lot of hard work for one month!

### Writing Workshop

The children absolutely adore this special time! They know it is when they become famous AUTHORS! We have been working on creating stories about what first graders know best: family, pets, vacations, sports, friends... Their stories are called personal narratives. Some of the mini-lessons we will discuss prior to writing include: coming up with an idea, sketching a picture of that idea, writing a few sentences that match the picture and stretching the words to hear as many sounds as they can!

### Math Workshop

Please check out the math

wikispace. <http://fairfieldpublicschools5math.wikispaces.com/>

We are beginning Unit 1: Fluency with Addition and Subtraction within 10. In this unit students will establish classroom routines. They will justify their reasoning, and construct viable arguments. Students will also analyze and construct graphs using surveys. Please find an overview of Unit 1 attached to the newsletter.

### Odds and Ends

\*Please remember that your child should bring in a water bottle every day.

\*We will be implementing 1 morning snack. It is important to send in one healthy snack for snack so that we don't cut into important curriculum times.

\*Please remember to specify the type of dismissal your child will be if you are changing from his/her usual way (car, parent pick-up, bus...).

\*Please remember to send in your child's 3 special things along with a picture.

Respectfully yours,  
Abigail Barzottini  
Allison Cabezas  
Gina Marcheschi  
Debra Jacobs