



First Grade News



P.S. 140Q The Edward K. Ellington School

February, 2017

Dear Parents,

The first graders have been working hard and enjoying their daily learning activities. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the first grade teachers. We would be glad to assist.

LANGUAGE ARTS

The children are involved in daily lessons in language arts that are focused on the Common Core Learning Standards. The lessons involve three areas of learning: Reading Literature, Reading Informational Text, and Foundational Skills. The book we are using as an anchor text is **Stellaluna**. The children will be exposed to this text in a variety of ways and we will be discussing the text at length during our literacy discussions. The children will have a chance to turn and talk about various concepts within the story. Research shows that discussing vocabulary and how words and concepts are used within a text greatly increases the likelihood that there will be retention of that vocabulary word or concept. The turn and talk takes place in all of our lessons. A cornerstone of the Common Core Learning Standards is the use of text-dependent questions that yield text based evidence. The children must become familiar with how to use evidence from the text to support their answers. We will be focusing on this in all content areas

All classes use **Fundations** to teach the necessary phonics skills for your children to be successful learners. We will continue to work on building phonemic awareness and phonics skills in each lesson. In UNIT 6 we will be learning baseword and suffix -s, pluralization, and reading with accuracy. In UNIT 7 we will be focusing on glued sounds: ang, ing, ong, ung, ank, ink, onk, and unk. Please review the foundation words given in the homework.

MATH

This month, we will be completing chapters 5 and 6 of Go Math! Students will be starting numbers and operations in base 10 as a part of the Common Core learning standards. The following will be the focus for our lessons:

- ✓ Counting to 120 starting with any number.
- ✓ Understand 2-digits of a two digit number represent tens and ones.
- ✓ Compare numbers and use the < and > symbols.

Practicing daily fluencies in math is essential to help children think at higher levels. Please work with your children every night to help build automaticity in their basic math facts. We will be sure to engage the children in activities that help take their knowledge of the basic facts and apply them to complex problem solving scenarios. Our first graders are doing well, as we move through the first grade math curriculum.

Vocabulary -



Related facts are facts that have the same parts and whole.

$$5 + 3 = 8 \quad 8 - 3 = 5$$

Digit- a symbol used in a numeration system; the ten digits used in our base-ten numeration system are 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9

Hundred- a number which is equal to 10tens or 100 ones

Ones- the value of a digit in the ones position on a place value chart.

Ten- a group of ten ones.



First Grade News



SCIENCE

Unit 2-Properties of Matter Unit Overview: Students observe and describe the three states of matter. Students describe, categorize, compare, and measure observable physical properties of matter and objects. Students' initial efforts in performing these processes may yield simple descriptions and sketches, which may lead to increasingly more detailed drawings and richer verbal descriptions. Matter exists in three states: solid, liquid, gas. Solids have a definite shape and volume. Liquids do not have a definite shape but have a definite volume. Gases do not hold their shape or volume.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Our First Graders will learn how to generate questions about the role of community workers in a school setting and use the questions to interview community workers in order to gather information to be used in writing informational reports. Our students see workers every day in their school community. We want our students to think of questions to ask workers in their own school community to gather information about *what they do* and *how we depend on them*.

Reading Fluency in All Content Areas

At this point in the year, we are starting to focus on fluency in reading. In order for your child to be fluent, they must know their high-frequency words. Please take some time each night to read with your child. Have basic discussions about vocabulary words in our books or various newspaper articles. Showing your children that reading is important to you will have a major impact on their reading development. Also, please look in your child's homework folder for the Monthly Reading Connection Newsletter.

Home-School Connection

PupilPath

Please check PUPIL PATH to get your child's grades and anecdotal. You received your log in and passwords. If you are having trouble logging in, please contact your child's teacher.

Important dates

Feb 20-24 Mid Winter Recess- School closed