



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

READYGEN:

This month in ReadyGen, the children will focus on being a good classroom citizen. They will be reading *A Fine Fine School* and *Recess Queen*. The children will be writing opinion pieces that are supported by specific reasons and information from the two texts. They will read and learn about important concepts; specifically that citizenship begins with becoming a contributing member of the classroom community. Please be sure to talk with your child about the various texts we are reading in class. Understanding the main idea and the supporting details is an important skill for the children and can be reinforced at home through simple discussions about books.

GO MATH:

The Go Math series in first grade supports the Common Core Standards in mathematics. The first grade teachers will focus on the daily fluency lessons that are essential for the children to be successful as well as applying the fluencies to real life situations through complex problem solving activities; two major shifts in the new Common Core standards for mathematics. Please make sure that your children are practicing their fluencies at home and that you are checking the homework on a nightly basis. The students will complete a problem of the day everyday in their Math Journals. They will also take part in a fluency part of the Math lesson, where layering of other topics will be mentioned. We will be monitoring your child's progress through daily exit cards for each lesson that will tell the classroom teacher who needs extra support in meeting the standards for this grade level. There will also be chapter assessments and various benchmark assessments throughout the year as a means of monitoring the progress of every child and planning lessons to meet the needs of every first grader.

Our focus over the next few weeks is on:

- * Addition with number bonds.
- * Various word problems to build conceptual knowledge
- * Finding missing variables within a math problem
- * Adding in any order; Commutative Property of Addition

SCIENCE:

This month students will be learning about bats and birds. They will be identifying the characteristics of both a bat and a bird. They will identify the body parts of each mammal and complete a KWL chart. Students will compare and contrast the similarities and differences among bats and birds.

SOCIAL STUDIES

This month students will be learning about Families. They will identify the people that are included in their family, and their family rules that they follow. They will have the opportunity to create a family tree. Students will compare families and determine how they are similar and different to their own.