

The Fabulous First Grade

Ms. Bollini, Ms. Premus, and Ms. Tantillo

Parent Newsletter – Issue 4 – December 2012

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Word Study - Students will be introduced to the concept of base word and suffix -s. Students should remember that sometimes "s" say /s/ as in hats and sometimes it says /z/ as in bugs. Students will also be introduced to the concept of plurals. Students will be learning new-glued sounds ending with _ng and _nk.

****Reminder****

There is a spelling test at the end of each week.

There is a Fundation test at the end of each unit.

Reading Workshop - Students will use their knowledge of and experiences with a topic to make connections to their reading in order to learn even more.

*Please continue to read daily with your child - encourage him/her to use print strategies to figure out difficult words, retell the story in sequence (beginning, middle, end), and make predictions before, during, and after reading. Encourage them to ask questions and then discuss possible responses to their questions. Also, encourage your child to read more nonfiction. These can be all-about type books or books about true events and real people. When reading these texts, have your child think about what they already know about the topic before reading and tell what they learned after reading.

Writing Workshop - Students will continue to use the Writing Workshop procedures to write an informative piece about family life now and long ago. They will learn methods to gather and record information. Students will incorporate text features and use the revising and editing strategies taught in class. Students will share their writing and publish an informational piece.

A Note From Ms. O'Donnell

"Check out our new website www.petridesschool.com to get up-to-date information on our elementary school."

Math:

Unit 4 - Students will explore three main areas of focus: measure and compare lengths using nonstandard and standard units, review telling time on the hour and half-hour and quarter-hour, and practice addition facts.

Social Studies and Science News:

Social Studies: In December we will study how families now and long ago are the same and different, how family life changes over time, and how families share their history.

Science: Students will be learning about temperature and weather.

What's New in Performing Arts?

Music/Movement: Continue with Improvisation and Blot Work; learn and apply major tonality; continuation of exercise dances

*IMPORTANT DATES

12/9 - Hanukkah begins.

12/19 - Winter Workshop - More info to come

12/24/12 - 1/1/13 - Holiday Break - School closed - School resumes on January 2nd.

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Please check your child's red dot notebook for nightly homework.
- Please sign your child's homework.
- Students should be using the "Book-in-a-Bag" program to read books on their level. Please be sure to take care of the books and accompanying materials and remember to return borrowed books.
- Please continue with donations of tissues and wipes for the classroom. They are appreciated.
- As always, please label your child's clothing and lunch boxes so it can be returned in case it gets misplaced.
- Remember to continue logging books on your child's "Read to Succeed" reading log, which are due February 15, 2013.

"There is a brilliant child inside every student."

---Marva Collins

Happy Holidays!



