

The Fabulous First Grade

Ms. Tantillo, Ms. Sims, Ms. Moore, Ms. R. Bollini and Mr. G

Parent Newsletter – December 2017

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Word Study

In December students will be introduced to the sound associations for the long vowels. Student will identify words with long vowels sounds. They will continue to learn and read high-frequency words in context.

There is a spelling test at the end of each week. Students are responsible for knowing previous weeks and current week words!! Parents are to sign and return test on Monday.

Reading Workshop

December theme A: "Making Choices". Readers will retell stories, including character, setting and major events, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson. Social Studies content taught through literacy. Learners will explore to identify how characters make choices about how to spend money.

December theme B: "Making Choices" continued. Readers will state and explain the reasons an author gives to support points in a text. Social Studies content taught through literacy. Learners will explore content to understand that people make decisions by considering choices.

Writing Workshop

Module A: Students will create a narrative of an event in sequence using powerful words to show emotion.

Module B: Students will compose an opinion and support the opinion by supplying a reason.

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 ask questions about the text. Also, encourage your child to read more non-fiction. These books can be about true events and real people or animals. 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.

Math:

Unit 4 & 5- Developing understanding of addition, subtraction, and strategies for addition and subtraction within 20.

Domain: represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction.

It is important that students start learning their math addition facts to 20 by rote. They should start by learning their doubles facts and ways to make 10 facts. Continue working with your child recognizing their numbers up to 100.

****NOTE**** - Think Central has resources for your child.

This is especially useful when your child is absent from school.

Technology:

Your child will continue practicing their keyboarding and mouse skills, typing, resources used for research, and proper use of the Internet. Along the way, we will work on integrating their literacy and mathematical skills, ensuring that all our students maximize their learning with hands on opportunities to succeed. In the month of December we will be focusing primarily on mouse and keyboarding skills.

What's New in Music and Art?

Ms. LaMorte: Students will continue study of Orff Barred Instruments, learn about Metallophones, learn many holiday songs with motions, analyze music for tonality and meter of songs, and self-evaluate.

Ms. Eliot: Students will revisit some favorite songs to review rhythms and movements with music.

*IMPORTANT DATES

12/6 - PTA General Membership Meeting

12/8 - PTA hosts our annual Holiday Fair - see separate class visitation schedule

12/23-1/1 - Holiday Break - School resumes on 1/2

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Please check your child's red dot notebook for nightly homework and notices. Discuss what homework is assigned for the evening.
- Please sign your child's homework.
- It is very important **not** to go ahead in workbooks as homework reflects work completed in class.
- Red folders, red dot notebooks and math books should be returned to school everyday.
- Any notes/letters to your child's teacher should not be written in their red dot notebook. Please write on a separate paper.
- Please be aware that in first grade students are responsible for unpacking/packing their supplies. Encourage the same at home.
- Students should be reading 20 minutes each night.
- Dress your child appropriately for the weather. Keep in mind that our classrooms get warm, but it is getting cooler outside, so layering works best.
- As always, please label your child's clothing and lunch boxes so they can be returned in case they get misplaced.
- Please continue with donations of tissues and wipes for the classroom. They are appreciated.
- **Six Flags Read to Succeed reading logs are due February 15, 2018.**
- *****Check our instagram and twitter pages: Twitter - @PetridesSchool Instagram - mjpetrides school**

"The object of Education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives."

-----Robert Maynard Hutchins

PTA News

PTA Meeting - 12/6
Save the Date - Holiday Fair 12/8

A Note From Ms. Ponzi

Dear Families,

It was so nice to see so many of you attend our Parent Teacher Conferences last month. Communication and collaboration between families and school is extremely beneficial for the success of our students, so we THANK YOU!

I encourage and appreciate your continued support at upcoming Parents as Partners events. It was so nice to see parents up at school this past month to assist at workshops in the classroom, shop at the book fair, and enjoy SING! I look forward to seeing you again soon!

Please continue to dress your child appropriately for the changing weather. We are continuing to send children outside for recess when the weather permits.

As we approach the holiday season, let us remember the importance of family, friends, and fun! I wish you and your families a very Happy and Healthy holiday season with your loved ones.

Sincerely,
Ms. Ponzi



Happy Holidays