



The Fabulous First Grade

**Ms. Tantillo, Ms. Moore, Ms. Granieri, Ms. Reardon, Ms. DiMarco,
Ms. LaGrotta, Ms. Sims and Mr. G**



Parent Newsletter – December 2019

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Word Study – In December students will be introduced to baseword and suffix with the suffix –s and plurals. 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: readers will retell stories, including characters, setting, major events, retell important details, identify words that express feelings and senses, and making connections to the text.

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.

Writing Workshop – Module A: Students will create a narrative e of an event in sequence using powerful words to show emotion. Students will include transition words in their piece. Writers will write an informational piece using facts learned in class.

Social Studies – December theme: Families, Now and Long Ago. Readers will read about life long ago and how families have a past and change over time. We will also be exploring the different holidays and traditions that are celebrated in December.

Math:

Module 1, Topic J: Development of Subtraction Fluency within 10
Module 2 – Introduction to Place Value Through Addition and Subtraction Within 10

Topic A: Counting on or Making Ten to Solve Result Unknown and Total Unknown Problems.

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.

Technology:

During the month of December, your child will be focusing on both keyboarding and mouse skills as well as proper use of the Internet. We will be using online tools to help maximize these skills. 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.

What’s New in Performing Arts?

Ms. Eliot: Students will learn about the different instruments in an orchestra and explore the works of different composers.

Ms. Granatelli (332): During the month of December, students will learn about sculpture and how to work with modeling clay. All art materials are provided in class.

Ms. LaGrotta (332): During dance class in December, first grade classes will be continuing identifying and demonstrating isolated dance moves of various body parts, locomotor and non-locomotor movements, and dancing with different tempos and rhythms.

*IMPORTANT DATES

12/6 – Holiday Fair

12/6 – Pretzel Day

12/9 – Parents as Partners , 9:00am

12/16 – “Frozen” Sing-a-Long, 9:00am – Wear your best Elsa/Anna/Olaf costumes!

12/23-1/1/20 – Winter Recess – School resumes on 1/2/20

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.
- All monies should be in a sealed envelope labeled with your child’s name.
- 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 that 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 it can be returned in case it gets misplaced.
- Remember you have **Zearn** math as a resource for your child. This is a valuable tool and contains resources that your child can participate in.
- Six Flags Read to Succeed Reading Logs are due **April 17, 2020**.



PTA News

The PTA would like to give a big Thank you to all those who came to our “Bowling With the Panthers” event! It was so much fun! A special shout out to the teachers and staff that came along with their families to make this event extra special!

Friday, December 6th is our Pretzels for Panthers day! Only \$1 for a delicious pretzel!

Also Friday, December 6th is our Holiday Fair, where parents are also invited along for some fun holiday shopping with their little ones! Please see teacher class times for a schedule.

David & Buster’s power play cards are on sale now! A great gift idea your loved ones can use during the holiday week off and support our school!

Shop with a smile on amazon and proceeds will go directly to our Petrides PTA! Please use smile.amazon.com select Michael J. Petrides in the drop down box and amazon will give 0.5% of your purchase as a donation to our PTA (prices are exactly the same!)

We hope that you can join us for our next PTA meeting on Wednesday, December 18th at 6:30pm.

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 and physical education class 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

