



The Fabulous First Grade

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



Parent Newsletter – January 2020

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Word Study – In January student will be introduced to new glued sounds (_ng, _nk). They will differentiate between a consonant blends and digraph blends. Lastly, students will be introduced to r-controlled vowel 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 – January theme: dinosaurs. Students will read information texts in search of answers to questions use text features when reading informational text and identify the main topic and retell details of a text.

Science: Animals. Students will learn how dinosaurs are alike and different.

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

Writing Workshop – Writers will write a question and answer piece about dinosaurs.

Technology:

During the month of January, 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.



*“Education is not preparation for life;
Education is life itself.”*
~John Dewey

PTA News

The PTA would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! We are looking forward to 2020 and would love for you to join us for some events this year.

Our monthly PTA meeting will be held on January 15th at 6:30pm and our Annual Kindergarten Fashion Show will be held on January 23rd. Please join us if your schedule permits!

Math:

Module 2 – Introduction to Place Value Through Addition and Subtraction Within 20.

Topics include: Counting on or Taking from Ten to Solve Result Unknown and Total Unknown Problems, Strategies for Solving Change or Addend Unknown Problems, Varied Problems with Decompositions of Teen Numbers as 1 Ten and Some Ones.

Much of the new Common Core Math Curriculum focuses on math talk. When doing math homework have your child explain his steps and give reasons for what he does to solve the problem using the math vocabulary for the unit.

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.

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): Happy New Year! During the month of *January 2020* students will focus on drawing and painting winter scenes.

Ms. LaGrotta (332): During dance class in January, 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

1/1 – New Year’s Day, No school

1/2 – First day back to school from Winter Break.

1/20 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School

1/23 – 10th Annual Kindergarten Fashion Show, 7:00pm

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- **Please check your child’s red dot notebook for nightly homework and notices.**
- *Please sign your child’s homework.*
- It is very important **not** to go ahead in workbooks as homework reflects work completed in class.
- **When your child is absent, he/she is responsible for work missed and homework assigned.** Please check the weekly homework handout in their red dot notebook.
- 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 notebooks. Please write on a separate paper.
- Please be aware that first grade students are responsible for unpacking/packing their supplies. Encourage the same at home.
- Students should be reading 20 minutes each night.
- Please make sure your child has 3 sharpened pencils to use each.
- 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 it can be returned in case it gets misplaced.
- Six Flags Read to Succeed Reading Logs are due **April 17, 2020.**

A Note From Ms. Ponzi

Dear Families,

I would like to wish all of you a very Happy New Year! So many fabulous things happened here at Petrides in 2019 and I thank each and every one of you for your continued support. The building was filled with parents in December for holiday workshops, shopping at the fair and singing holiday songs. Please continue to join us at upcoming Parents as Partners events in the New Year. We look forward to an even better 2020!

Please continue to dress your child for the changing of the seasons, as we are committed to sending the children outside for recess, weather permitting. Thank you for all that you do and we are looking forward to a happy and healthy New Year with you all.

Sincerely,
Ms. Ponzi

