

The Fabulous First Grade

Ms. Tantillo, Ms. Reardon, Ms. Moore, Ms. King and Mr. G

Parent Newsletter – December 2018

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. Learners will explore content to understand that people make decisions by considering choices.

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 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.

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:

Unit 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:

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 Music and Art?

Ms. LaMorte: Students will analyze music (major/Minor; Duple), learn/apply Rondo form in song with rhythm instruments and dance, learn 8 songs with motions, and self-evaluate. Mr. G’s class will also learn new dance activity.

Ms. Granatelli: During the month of December students will be exploring sculpturing with modeling clay.

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

*IMPORTANT DATES

12/7 – Holiday Fair

12/20 – Early Childhood Holiday Sing-a-Long, 9am – Parents welcome

12/24–1/1/19 – Winter Recess – School closed. School resumes on 1/2/19.

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 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 they can be returned in case they get misplaced.

PTA News

12/7 – PTA hosts Holiday Fair

12/19 – PTA Meeting, 7:00pm



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. Many parents were up at school this past month taking advantage of our workshops and assisting their child in the classroom, learning how to help their child at home and shopping at the book fair. 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

