



The Fabulous First Grade

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



Parent Newsletter – November 2018

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Word Study – In November, students will be introduced to the short vowel sounds and apply the concept that consonant and vowel sounds can be blended together to form words.

Each week new sight words and high frequency words will be introduced. There is a spelling test at the end of each week. Students are responsible for knowing previous weeks and current week words!!

Reading Workshop– November theme A: “Becoming a Classroom Citizen”. Readers will retell stories, including key details and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson. Learners will explore content to understand how children contribute to a classroom community as “classroom citizens”.

November theme B: “Becoming a Classroom Citizen,” continued. Readers will identify a main topic and retell key details using the text and illustrations. Learners will explore content to understand how children contribute to a global community as “child citizens.”

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.

Social Studies – November theme: Families, Now and Long Ago. Readers will read about life long ago and how families have a past and change over time.

Writing Workshop–

Module A: Writers will formulate opinion and supply reasons for the opinion.

Module B: Writers will create an explanatory text including facts about a topic and some closure.

In writing, students should continue to work on letter formation, using capitals and punctuations correctly, and finger spacing between words.

Math:

Unit 3 – Students will develop an understanding of addition, subtraction, and strategies for addition and subtraction within 20.

Domain: Operations and Algebraic Thinking

Technology:

During the month of November, 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 discuss/sing about the importance of voting, analyze music for major/minor and duple/triple, learn/study about the Orff Barred Instruments and proper mallet hold/technique, and learn 2 pieces and dance steps.

Mr. G’s class will also discuss/sing about the importance of voting, as well as discuss/apply a music scale with piece using Barred instruments and proper mallet technique, and learn poem and perform with dance in Canon form.

Ms. Granatelli: Students will continue developing their drawing and painting skills.

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

*IMPORTANT DATES

11/6 – Election Day – No School for Students

11/7 – Parents as Partners Workshop: Math Task, 8:15am

11/12 – Veteran’s Day – No School

11/22 & 11/23 – Thanksgiving Recess – No School

11/27 – Report Cards Distributed

11/28 – Half Day of School – 11:20am dismissal

Afternoon Parent Teacher Conferences, 12:20pm-2:20pm

Evening Parent Teacher Conferences, 5:00pm-8:00pm

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- Please sign your child’s homework every night.
- Please check your child’s red dot notebook for nightly homework and school notices.
- 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 your child to unpack their red folders, red dot notebooks and math book. Discuss what homework is assigned for the evening.
- You and your child should be reading for 20 minutes each night.
- Dress your child appropriately for the weather. Keeping in mind that our classrooms gets warm, but that it is getting cooler outside, layering works best.
- As always, please label your child’s clothing and lunch boxes so they can be returned in case they get misplaced.
- Remember you have Think Central as resources for your child. This is a valuable tool when your child forgets their math book in school or is absent from school. It also contains additional resources your child can participate in.

PTA News

–Thank you Panther families for making our 1st trunk or treat possible. We truly appreciate your generosity and support.

–Our 2nd Pretzels for Panthers sale will be held on Friday, 11/2 during all three lunch periods for \$1 each. Pre-K – 12 are encouraged to participate. Please be reminded that Pretzels for Panthers will be the 1st Friday of each month.

–Thank you to those who have participated in our World’s Finest Chocolate fundraiser.

–Please join us on 11/8 for “Pies with the PTA” at 7:00pm for your chance to win a raffle and to discuss more about what’s to come for elementary. We will be serving freshly baked pies.

A Note From Ms. Ponzi

Dear Families,

November is a month to give thanks! I am so thankful for all of the family members who have supported our children so far this school year. We would like to say a big thank you to our PTA who organized this year’s Halloween event “Trunk or Treat” for our Elementary School students.

This month we will be celebrating the importance of reading here at school, but reading at home is very important too. The benefits of independent reading include improved vocabulary, verbal fluency, and enhanced general academic achievement. Please be sure that your child is reading books on their independent reading level provided by their teacher.

One of my favorite quotes from Dr. Seuss is, “The more you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you will go.” I cannot wait to see all the places our children will go.

Sincerely,
Ms. Ponzi

