



The Fabulous First Grade

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



Parent Newsletter – October 2018

WHAT ARE WE STUDYING?

Literacy:

Word Study – In October we will be continue reviewing the consonants and short vowels. Students will begin to understand and learn to 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. Students will be tested weekly on these words.

They are responsible for new and previous weeks' words.

Reading Workshop– October theme: "Connecting to Our World". Readers will read informational texts in search of answers to questions.

Social Studies content is taught through literacy. Learners will explore a variety of informational texts while asking and answering questions. This month's unit focus is families.

*Please continue to read daily with your child – encourage him/her to use print strategies to figure out difficult words. Encourage them to retell the beginning, middle and end of their story.

Writer's Workshop – Writers will create one informational piece on a topic.

In writing, students should be working on forming their letters properly and using proper writing conventions, including capitals, ending punctuation and finger spacing between words.

Math:

Unit 2– Students are developing an understanding of addition, subtraction, and strategies for addition and subtraction within 20. Students will also be developing their problem solving skills. Domain: Operations and Algebraic Thinking



PTA News

–**Pretzel sales!** The first Friday of the month we will have a pretzel sale outside of the cafeteria. Students wishing to purchase a pretzel should bring \$1.00 with them to lunch. It has been suggested to put an envelope with student's name, date and marked "pretzel money" to be placed either in their lunch box or if the teacher could remind the student to bring it with them to lunch.

–**Movie night save the date Friday, 10/5** at 7pm in the Quad. Premiering the Emoji Movie. Children will receive an emoji bracelet, popcorn, and drink with a donation of \$5 per person.

–Halloween "Trunk or Treat" will be in our Quad with lots of candy treats and fun games/activities and bouncy house. More information will be given out as date approaches. Save the date for Sunday, 10/28.

–Chocolate bar sales will be starting soon! More information to follow.

Technology:

During the month of October, 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 learn proper singing skills/pitch matching work, beat competency work, learn 4 new pieces, discuss/sing about Christopher Columbus, read/play simple duple meter rhythms, and learn/discuss a Hoedown Dance. Mr. G's class will also learn proper Mallet technique for Barred Instruments and read/play simple melodic rhythm with familiar song.

Ms. Granatelli: During the month of October, students begin with learning to draw and paint their self-portrait.

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

*IMPORTANT DATES

10/8 – Columbus Day – No School

10/17 – PTA Meet & Greet (Adults only), 7:00pm

10/28 – PTA hosts Trunk or Treat

10/31 – Halloween March of Dimes Wonder Walk on school track. Students may wear their Halloween attire. No face masks please.

News/Information/Tips/Reminders

- **Please sign your child's homework.**
- *Please check your child's red dot notebook for nightly 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 your child to unpack their red folders, red dot notebooks and math book. Discuss what homework is assigned for the evening.
- We do not have snack in first grade. Breakfast is not served in the classroom (as done in Kindergarten). Remind your child to attend breakfast before entering the auditorium.
- Students should be reading 20 minutes each night.
- Dress your child appropriately for the weather. Keep in mind that our classrooms get warm, but since 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.
- As always, we are grateful for any donations of tissues, wipes and paper towels.

"Learning never exhausts the mind."

-----Leonardo Da Vinci

A Note From Ms. Ponzi

Dear Families,

We are off to a great start and I am super excited to begin this next month of school. We will be hosting a Walk-a-thon to support the March of Dimes on October 31st at 9:45am on the field. All students in grades Pre-K-4 are invited to walk in their Halloween costumes on our track. We ask that you refrain from dressing the students in costumes with masks and please do not send props into school. March of Dimes envelopes will be sent home this week and can be returned with donations on the day of the Wonder Walk. Parents are welcome to view our costume parade on the field (weather permitting). Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Sincerely,
Ms. Ponzi

