

First Grade Happenings

FEBRUARY 4, 2019

Hello everyone!

Today is report card day! You may keep the actual report card at home. Please sign the envelope and return it to school.

This is the time of year when many parents ask if we are going to do anything for Valentine's Day. The answer is yes! The children may exchange cards on February 14. You will receive the list of students in the class from your child's homeroom teacher this week.

Please check the calendar below for what's coming up, and have a great week!



REMINDERS AND IMPORTANT DATES

- Monday, February 4 - Report Cards go home
- Thursday, February 7 - Wiley Band Concert
- Friday, February 15 - Early Release (students dismiss at 1:15 pm)
- Monday, February 18 - Teacher Workday - no school for kids
- Thursday, February 21 - Literacy Night (more details to come home later)

THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK IN CLASS

In *reading* this week, we are finishing and assessing standard RI 1.9, comparing and contrasting two texts about the same topic. Next we begin working on standard RI 1.3, which is "Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text." This standard requires students to closely read informational texts so that they can make connections with other ideas or events within the same text. For example, when reading about plants, what is the connection between sunlight, water, and soil? Included within this

standard is the skill of identifying and explaining cause and effect; e.g., what happens if you water a plant or if you do not water a plant?

In Letterland, we will continue working on silent e. Remember, in Letterland the story is that the e at the end is silent but throws magic on the previous vowel in the word and makes that vowel change its sound from the short sound to the long one. Last week we only worked on words with the vowel "a" in them. In Unit 17 this week, we will study long o and long i words such as "home" and "like". Next week we will learn about words that have silent e but end specifically with "ce" and "ge", such as "ice" and "cage". As always, the new word lists will come home at the beginning of the week, and assessments will be given on Fridays. Please practice words with your child at home.

In *writing*, we will continue to work on our "All About" books, which is addressing standard W.1.2, "write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide closure."

In *math*, we just assessed 1.OA.7 (determining whether expressions were equal or not), and this week we will begin addressing 1.NBT.5, which is mentally adding 10 to and subtracting 10 from a 2-digit number. We will be learning how to use place value to help us do this mentally, without having to count. For example, if we ask, "What is 10 more than 53?" we should be able to quickly identify that 5 is in the tens place, and 1 more than 5 is 6, so adding 10 would make the number 63.

In *science*, we will continue our unit on Balance and Motion.



- **Read for 10-15 minutes each night. Try to read nonfiction at least once each week.** Ask your child to make connections between ideas in the text. "How does ___ relate to ___?" Also ask for details from the text, to check and see if your child is remembering what he/she read.
- **Practice reading and writing the words in Letterland Unit 17 this week and Unit 18 next week.** Assessments will be given on Fridays.
- **Choose 2-digit numbers and ask your child to add or subtract 10. Try to vary the language you use to make sure your child understands "more than", "less than", "plus", "minus", "add more", "take away", etc..** Examples: What is 10 more than 13? What is 25 plus 10? 61 minus 10? If I have 39 pencils and give 10 away, how many will I have left?
- **Ask your child questions about motion, to check for understanding in science:** If you drop your ball on a flat driveway and your friend drops his/her ball at the top of a hill, which ball will roll faster? Why? What forces make objects move faster? What forces make objects slow down? What is the difference between rolling and spinning?

**Memberhub link with comprehension questions, Letterland word lists, and math challenge problems can be found at: [:https://wiley.memberhub.com/hubs/11112/repository](https://wiley.memberhub.com/hubs/11112/repository)*

Have a great week!

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