

## Newsletter for the week of January 9, 2017

Hello Parents,

We survived the first week back of school after winter break! This past week all students were very well behaved and excited to be back at school. One of the students even said “I wish we could have school every day”.

This past week we welcomed Mina King to our classroom. Students welcomed her with so much kindness. We are so glad to have her in our class.

I am very proud of how well many of the students did on their “spelling” tests on the months of the year. I could tell they worked on the words at home. I look forward to witnessing how successful our class will be the rest of the school year.

Please keep in mind that students go outside for recess when it is 25 degrees and above. I encourage students to have gloves, hats, winter coats, and warm shoes. I let students play in the snow for short periods of time (10-15 minutes) this past week. If you do not feel comfortable with your child outside when it is colder than 25 degrees, please let me know. They are given a choice if they want to play outside when it is not recess.

Just a reminder; if your child is late for school you must sign them in at the office.

*Here are some activities for the up and coming week....*

### **Math**

First and second graders will be taking minute addition fact tests twice a week. We started with doubles, once your child passes they will move on to adding 1 and 2 to numbers up to 10. Zaiden and Autumn will have a mixture of single digit addition facts. Please practice addition facts at home to help them prepare.

Concepts this week

*1<sup>st</sup> grade* – Addition Strategies (using doubles and counting up to find the sum)

*2<sup>nd</sup> grade* - Two Digit Subtraction (regrouping to find the difference)

### **Language Arts**

*1<sup>st</sup> grade*

Writing- Descriptive writing

Grammar- Kinds of sentences

Reading- Dr. Seuss by Helen Lester (autobiography)

*2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade*

Writing –Persuasive/Opinion writing

Grammar-Kinds of sentences review

Reading- Perfect Pet by Margie Palatini

*Some students will choose a book of their choice in which they will need to complete a report. I will give details later this week for that assignment.*

## **Spelling**

I will send the spelling words home Monday.

Spelling list 1 – short e words

Spelling list 2 -ai and ay words

Spelling list 3- Long a, ai, and ay words

## **Reading Groups**

I will be working with reading groups during SSR time until the end of the school year. Even though students receive instruction during Language Arts, I felt they needed more time with reading instruction and practice.

Group 1 - /s/ sounds (ce, ci and ss words), high-frequency words and differentiating vowel sounds in the middle of words.

Group 2- diagraphs, high frequency words, fluency, and idioms

## **Read Alouds**

Chapter Book- *The Year of Billy Miller* by Kevin Henkes(I want to thank Tony's family for this book.)

Picture Books- *I Wanna Iquana* by Karen Kaufman Orloff and *Magic School Bus Inside the Human Body* by Joanna Cole

## **Project**

We will begin our unit on the human body. Students will begin this unit by brainstorming what they know about the body (organs, tissues, etc.).

## **Important Dates:**

January 12 – Playground training at 3:15, Locally Grown meeting at 5:00, and Board meeting 6:00

January 13 –Noon dismissal (teacher in-service) with child care

January 16- NO SCHOOL

Have a great weekend!