

First Grade News

Mrs. Neilander
December 6, 2019

*Our message writing center is a hit with this class. If you have any unused holiday cards, stickers, or envelopes that you would like to donate, we would love them.

*We will be reading and acting out **The Polar Express** book with the other 1st Graders on Wednesday, December 18th. If your child would like to **wear their pajamas** this day, that would be great. They do need to wear regular shoes for the playground.

Author of the week:

Jan Brett

Questions to ask your child:

*What is a conifer tree? (a pine tree that doesn't have leaves) What do you know about them?

*In phonics, what is the difference between a digraph and a blend? (Digraphs are two letters that make one sound like **ch, sh, th, wh**. Blends are two consonants that blend together, but make two sounds like **dr, dl, st, tr**).

Field Trip

As you know, we will be going on a field trip to the Brewery Arts Center next Thursday, December 12th. We will be leaving school at 9:15 and returning around 1:30. If you know your child will not be attending, please let me know ahead of time. **There is no permission slip to sign for this field trip.** Please be sure to send a lunch box or sack lunch with your child if you did not order a school sack lunch. We are encouraging students to dress up for the play if they would like.

mark your calendar

*Next Wednesday, Dec. 11th is a late start day beginning at 10:20.

*Our holiday party will be on Friday, Dec. 20th from 12:35-1:45. Please let me know ahead of time if you would like to volunteer to help at it. I am sending home requests for food items in today's peechee with about 1/3 of you.

we are learning

Reading

We are back to testing sight words every Wednesday. As the lists get harder, it is normal to take a few extra weeks to pass a level. If your child knows the words well, they do not need to practice old lists every day. They can throw the old lists away if they would like, but I know many of them want to hang on to them for practice.

Writing

We are finishing up our unit on Informative Writing. Next week we will try an Informative Writing assessment. I will be looking to see if students can write 5 sentences independently with a topic sentence, conclusion, and most punctuation. We will move on to write Personal Narratives, but will often revisit Informative Writing throughout the year.

math $+\frac{2}{4}$

This week we finished up our first section of our new math unit (making ten when adding numbers 7-10). Next week we will begin using the same strategy to do subtraction. Any practice counting backwards would be great.

Math questions to ask your child:

- *Why is it easy to add a number to ten?
- How does $8 + 4$ go with $10 + 2$?
- How does $8 + 6$ go with $10 + 4$?

