First Grade News

Mrs. Neilander

January 31, 2020

We will have a Valentine party on Friday, February 14th. I am sending a note requesting party items from the third of you that haven't already brought food items to our previous parties. I will be sending home a Valentine list next week. Homework for the week of February 10th will include writing Valentines to each child in the class. **(We currently have 22 students)** We will make Valentine bags at school to use as Valentine collection keepers.

Author of the Week

Helen Lester

The Big Cheese

Dominic was our Big Cheese this week. Dominic has one sister and two brothers. He loves to go camping, swimming, and bike riding. When he grows up, Dominic wants to be a policeman. He is such a good helper in our class that it is easy to imagine him being a great community helper like a policeman.

Questions to ask your child:

* How many days have we been in 1st Grade? (101) Can you tell me some different ways to make the number 100?
*Can you give me some examples of a words that have
a vowel, consonant, silent e? (line, take, home, flute, these)

mark your calendar

*Friday, February 7th -Teacher Work Day-no school
*Wednesday, February 11th , is a late start day beginning at 10:20.

• Our Winter Break is the week of February 17th -21st.

We Are Learning

Reading

Some of the reading strategies that we use when we come to unknown words are: looking at the picture, sounding out the letters, saying "blank" then coming back to it, covering the word ending, and changing the vowel sound. We've really been focusing on not just continuing to read when we come to an unknown word, but stopping and trying various strategies to solve the word.

Writing

Be sure to have your child read his/her January Journal for you and note the areas for improvement. This month we focused on adding "spicy words" and "transitional words" (first, next, then, last).

Math

We are at the end of our second big math unit. We will review the skills in it and take an assessment next week before we move on to the next unit. The third unit is all about measuring and comparing sizes. It will be a nice break from our more challenging concepts we have been learning.

Math Questions to ask your child:

*What is your favorite math strategy for solving subtraction problems like 18-9 = ___ ? We have focused on *Counting On, Take From 10,* and *Counting Backwards.* Can you explain them all to me?
*Is this equation true or false? $17 - 9 = 6 + 2$