

November

Hello First Grade Parents,

FIRST GRADE

First and foremost I want to thank all of you for volunteering and sending in supplies for our Halloween celebration, the children had a wonderful time. Our

Thank
You



celebration would not have been possible without the continued help and support from you. Thank you!

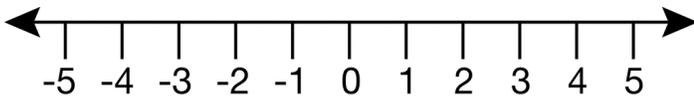
It is now November, and we are settled in to our routine in first grade. The children are working very hard to polish their reading skills by learning contractions and compound words. We have also begun to look into the different parts of speech. We have learned all about "naming words" or nouns, and we understand that they can represent a person, place, or thing in a sentence. We are also taking a closer look at plural and singular nouns. As part of our Friday schedule, we have started writing stories.

The next theme in our language books will deal with order and how it can help us to narrate a story. Understanding order can help children build an idea of time and help them to learn to manage their own time.

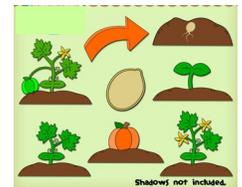
We are also beginning our third book in reading class in which we will begin exploring stories about different animals and their habitats, children, and cultures from around the globe.

These stories will align with our Social Studies unit on community and citizenship. We have been taking a look at community leaders such as police officers, judges and government officials. We will continue to focus on being a good citizen and begin to take a look at the Founding Fathers, the Constitution, and Declaration of Independence.

In math, we have been focusing on five important strategies that can help us to solve simple math equations. By using number lines, ten frames, pattern boxes, double numbers, and double numbers plus one, we have begun to build our addition and problem solving skills. We are also working on solving story problems by using counters, pictures, or mental math. These critical thinking skills are very important for children later on in their schooling, and we are already building them in first grade. We will begin working with subtraction within the next week and continue to work with math tubs on Friday afternoon in order to build basic math skills.



In science, we are working learning all about the melting, mixing, freezing, and evaporating matter. We will continue to study this topic and be doing a few experiments in the classroom. We will also continue our study of pumpkins as the seeds we planted at the end of October begin to grow and sprout vines. Thank you to all those who donated a pumpkin. The children have had a wonderful time learning and examining them. We have been working on a few projects as well that will be coming home soon! Keep a look-out for them! The children are very excited to learn and participate in science it is a very exciting part of our day.



We are continuing to grow and share God's love by learning what it means to trust that God and Jesus will love us unconditionally. The children enjoy our daily prayer time and reading a Bible story during SSR. They truly are gifts from God, and they renew my faith in the Lord daily. Listening to them pray fills my heart with joy and faith. We will continue to learn about God's love and Jesus' life and miracles with our supplementary workbook. We will also take a look at Saints as they are a wonderful example of God's love.

As you may know, life can get a little hectic and time gets away from us. I wanted to take time to remind you to read to your children daily. It is very important and beneficial for children to be read to. This can be a quiet and relaxing activity before homework or bed time. Children love to be read to, and having adults read to them can model good reading skills and proper speech to children.



A few reminders to keep in mind: I have been sending math papers three times a week. These papers are part of the homework and need to be completed and returned to school the next day. Please be sure that you are also taking time to practice and review the monthly words that are attached to my letter. Library books need to be returned to school on Thursday. If the children have checked out a book and have not finished it, the book can be checked out for a second week. At the end of this month, we will be having a Thanksgiving Feast in first grade. I will be sending more information with room parent as the date approaches!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Barrios

November Words

difference

nothing

rind

winter

**Founding
Fathers**

carry

vine

Advent

skate

pilgrim

isn't

mix

smell

Mayflower

tendrils

evaporate

minus

always

ribs

she'll

sentence

round

Atlantic

saint

store

feast

weight

turkey

solar

pumpkin

sprout

Thanksgiving

read

can't

it's

phase

won't

Ocean

community

seed

journey

