



First Grade News

Reading - This week in reading we read the story, Days of Adventure, where two children take some household things and use their imagination to have several "adventures". We compared what would you really use the items for and what the children used the items for. Then we read the story again and we discussed what does a period mean (end of a thought). We also discussed what the "subject" of a sentence is and what the "predicate" is. The subject is the "who" or "what" of the sentence. The predicate is what the subject is doing. Please ask your child to tell you the subject and predicate of a sentence and ask them about "Days of Adventure".

Phonics - The students were introduced to three new sounds this week, "d", "i", and "n". First they had to listen to me say the word slowly and tell me what words I was saying. Next I said the word and they had to say it slowly. I introduced three new "high frequency" words, "been", "have" and "of" that the students had to say by sight. Each lesson we will be adding more words that they must recognize. Finally I used the new sounds to make some words, "pin", "sad", and "mist". Please ask your child about these sounds and words. Also, please practice the Partner Practice pages that get sent home every week.

Writing - This week we continued learning about "Writer's Workshop". We began the week by discussed "Zooming In". This means that the students had to think about the topic for their story and then focus on one little part of that topic to write about. Instead of writing about a trip to the park, the students were asked to write about 1 little part of going to the park, like feeding the ducks. Next we discussed emulating a well-known author and copy the style of their writing. Then we practiced how to choose a title to match the writing. Finally we tried to build problem solving skills and independence during writing time. We did this by discussing some of the problems that the students might encounter during writing time and how they could solve their own problem. Please ask your child to share what they worked on this week.

Math - This week in math, the students practiced addition and learned one strategy to help them understand addition. This strategy will be practiced many times throughout the year, but was introduced this week. We practiced "counting-on". This strategy is when the students start at one number and count up from it. (6... 7,8,9) Next we practiced making tally marks. This concept was introduced the other week but was reinforced again this week. Then we practiced addition patterns where the students made all of the combinations for a number. For instance the number 4. The combinations are: 0+4, 1+3, 2+2, 3+1, and 4+0. It is important that your child understands the combinations for each number. Again these will be practiced throughout the year. Finally, subtraction was introduced with the story, "The Icky Sticky Trap". It's about a spider who wants to eat some bugs.

Important Notes

- Homework has started. Please have your child complete and return their homework the following day.
- **PICTURE DAY is Wednesday, October 8th.**
- If you have not already sent in the "Kidstuff" coupon book, can you please send it in. The PTA is collecting them. Thank You!
- You should have received a list of the first grade sight words. Please practice these words on a weekly basis. By the end of first grade they have to say all of the words quickly. A couple of ideas to practice these words are if you make some words and play "Bingo" or make them into a "Memory" game. The students think they are playing a game and not just practicing words.
- Please collect Box Tops For Education and send them in. This is a great way to make money for the school. Our class has sent the PTA several baggies full so far. Thank you to all of the families that have already sent some in.
- Thank You to all of the families that are sending their child in with a healthy snack. If they bring in cookies, cakes, or donuts, I am not allowed to let them eat it. It is too much sugar and some students have a hard time concentrating after eating a sugary snack.
- Please remember to have your child wear sneakers on "Gym" days. It is important that your child wears sneakers so they can participate in the fun. If you need another copy of the letters day calendar please see us or the main office.
- If you need to speak to us, before or after school is a convenient time. You can also e-mail us at b59gcara@manchesterct.gov, b47jmedy@manchesterct.gov, and b57dwats@manchesterct.gov or send in a note with your child and we will respond to you as quickly as we can.

Important Dates to Remember:

- October 8th: PTA Meeting 3:50pm
- October 8th: Picture Day
- October 13th: No School-Columbus Day
- October 16th: Fire Prevention Presentation
- October 17th: School Store
- October 22nd: District PD $\frac{1}{2}$ day
- October 24th: Halloween Party

Thank You,
Mr. Carabillo
Mrs. Medynski
Mrs. Watson