



First Grade Newsletter November 20, 2015

Math

Chapter 3 has begun and the first graders are learning strategies to use when adding numbers up to 20. The boys and girls learned a strategy called “stick and clap.”

They take the bigger number and stick it in their head. Next, they clap the smaller number. Please ask your first grader what the smaller number has to be for this to work. 😊 (Answer: 1, 2, or 3)

Sometimes the smaller number is larger than 3 so another strategy must be used. Each first grader constructed a number line of their very own. Yet another tool to place in their imaginary math tool belt. Finally we learned about our first coin, a penny. We had interesting conversations about the face and building on the faces of a penny! Please ask your child these trivia facts.

(Answer: Abraham Lincoln and the Lincoln Memorial)

MATH TERMS

- **Addends** – any numbers being added together.
- **Count on** – on a number line, start with the greater number and count up.
- **Doubles** – 2 addends that are the same.
- **Doubles minus 1** – add with doubles and subtract 1.
- **Doubles plus 1** – add with doubles and add 1.
- **Number line** – a line with number labels.



REMINDERS

- Please dress your child in appropriate winter weather attire. If the sun is out, the kids are out! 😊

Academic Progress:

G+	Excellent.....	100%
G	Very Good.....	99-92%
G-	Good.....	91-90%
S+	Satisfactory.....	89-88%
S	Meets Expectations.....	87-75%
S-	Unsatisfactory.....	74-70%
N	Needs Improvement.....	69% below

Important Dates

November 25-27

NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, December 10

Christmas Concert @ MS 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 16

Early Dismissal @ 1:00 pm



Friday, December 18

Christmas Parties (see classroom teachers)

December 19 – January 3

Winter Vacation

Vocab Words

no	two	put	about
ride	saw	into	around
out	very	away	again
small	want	good	use



Reading

Since we only have two school days next week, we will be doing some fun literature selections. Your child will be reading a story called Maria's Thanksgiving. Your child will also be experiencing a Reader's Theater (play) and have their very own part to practice and perform.

After Thanksgiving Break, we will be working on our final set of leveled readers in order to prepare for our second big book test. The leveled readers are Around Bug Town, A Box of Bugs, and Sitting in My Box.

How can you help get your child ready? Please start refreshing your first grader on the vocabulary words listed above. Also, when reading stories at home, focus on having them identify the characters, problem, and setting. This is a skill they will be tested over on this upcoming test.

Phonics

This week was a review week of the three digraphs we have learned. (digraph ck, digraph sh, digraph th) We then took our test to check for understanding. When we return, we will be moving on to a new suffix, -ing. You may hear your child say they have a new aunt! Her name is "Aunt 'ing'". 😊

Skills to Keep Practicing at Home:

- Short and Long vowels
- Breaking words into parts to sound them out
- Blends
- Digraph ck, sh, th
- Writing and spelling with the letters "c" and "k."
- Suffix s and the two sounds s makes.



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