

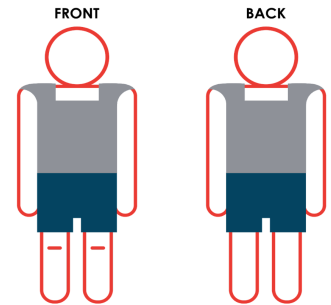


First Grade Newsletter Miss Earle's Class



Note From Miss Earle

As the weather warms up, please make sure that your child is wearing clothes that follow our school and district dress code. Students should be dressing appropriately for the activities and weather conditions that may occur each day. In particular, please avoid short shorts and strappy tank tops. Use the image provided as a reference of what should be covered. If you have further questions, please let me know.



As the school year is winding down, the school will start taking inventory of our books. As such, we'll need all **Take Home Reading Books** returned to school on **Tuesday, April 30th**. Please be sure that those books are turned in on time or paid for if they are lost. Each Take Home Reading Book costs \$5 to replace (\$25 per bag). Plus, we need all **Library Books** returned to school on **Wednesday May 1st**. If you need to know the replacement cost, please email me and I'll get the information from Mrs. Christensen.

The days are really starting to wind down, aren't they? We have some crazy **May Day** fun planned. Your student received a copy of the schedule last week. If you lose it in the craziness, let me know and I'll get you another copy. **May Days** are optional. Don't feel obligated to do everything, but please join us for some things. We promise it will be fun!

After this week, I think we'll end our classroom volunteers. Schedules get even crazier in May because of plays and other activities (including **May Days**). The schedule can change daily so I can't guarantee we'll be doing an activity at a specific time. If you still want to show up, that's okay. However, we may not be in our room or even doing the activity that you usually volunteer for. Thank you so much for all the volunteer hours that you've put into our classroom this year. You've really helped the children (and me) succeed this year. ☺

School Spirit Days are on Friday! Wear school colors or school shirts.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, let me know.

Dates to Remember

- 4/29 Shark Readers Meeting 9:00am
- 4/30 Take Home Reading Books Due
- 5/1 Library Books Due
- 5/3 Fun Friday - Star Wars Day!
- 5/7 Field Trip to Tracy Aviary
- 5/8 Acadience Reading Testing - Please have your child in attendance!
Pink Shirt Day. #Stand4Kind
- 5/21 Field Day
- 5/24 PTA Spirit Night at Swig in Saratoga Springs
Last Day of School

Don't forget May Days!!

		1 - May Day Wear flowers or flower colors.	2 - Sun & Moon Day Wear clothes with stars, suns or moons.	3 - Star Wars Day Wear Star Wars costumes/clothes.
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6 - Cinco (Seis) de Mayo Wear bright colors. Bring Mexican hats and instruments.	7 - Field Trip Day	8 - Superhero Day Dress like a Superhero	9 - Map Day	10 - Animal Day Bring a small stuffed animal (no bigger than a backpack).
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Reading

Our reading groups will be applying our phonics skill from last week (vowel-r: ar/or/er/ir/ur) to reading a decodable text. If students have already mastered that skill, they may receive a leveled book to read.

During shared reading, we'll be talking and reading about traditions that people follow and pass on. While reading different texts, we'll discuss how good readers use the words and illustrations to visualize (or create pictures in their minds) of the story events. This can help them understand the story. We'll also use clues from the texts to identify the theme (or main idea).

Remember to review comprehension questions with your child after he/she reads. ("Start at the beginning and tell me what happened in that story." "What was the most important part? Why?" "What did that story remind you of?" etc.). You might even have your student write answers to these questions.

Heart Words: before front push tomorrow your

Word Work/Phonics

We will be working on reading and writing multisyllabic words this week. We've had a lot of practice with different syllable types (closed, silent-e, vowel team, vowel-r). You can remind yourself about each syllable type in your child's homework folder. Now, we get to use that knowledge to decode longer words. We'll focus mostly on words with a "closed-closed" syllable pattern or words made from two closed syllables. It's important for students to recognize that every syllable must have a vowel sound. When there are 2 consonants between the vowel sounds, we usually divide between them (ie: bas/ket, sub/ject, mag/net, fit/ness, den/tist, etc.). If your child is really comfortable with "closed-closed" multisyllabic words, try challenging them to identify other vowel types in multisyllabic words (ie: per/son, up/date, win/dow, bed/time, en/joy, etc.).

Writing

I still have a few more Mother's Day Books to conference/publish. Once those are done, we'll have some review lessons about specific writing conventions. Lately, we've gotten a bit sloppy with our spaces and letter formation/sizing. Plus, we'll review the need to have sentences with correct capitalization and punctuation.

Otherwise, we will learn about using "I" and "me" appropriately in sentences. We'll review that the subject of a sentence is what a sentence is all about. We use "I" as the subject of a sentence. We use "me" after a verb or words such as "for, at, of, with, to, between". For example, "I like to play ball. Will you play with *me*?"

Math

We will be learning about fractions this week. I know this seems like a crazy concept for first graders. The focus for us is on understanding that fractions are equal parts of a whole. This means we will spend most of our time partitioning (separating) shapes into two or four equal shares. We will be learning the appropriate language for fractions as well (halves, fourths, quarters, etc.).