



First Grade Newsletter Miss Earle's Class



Note From Miss Earle

There will be a school-wide talent show that happens before the year is done. In preparation, we will be having a small **Class Talent Day** where we share our talents. Students are asked to prepare one talent. This is completely optional. No pressure! We welcome any talent. However, we are ultimately looking for only a couple of students from the grade level to perform for the school. This means the student would need to be comfortable/confident enough to share his/her talent in front of the whole school. Also, it would need to be a fairly impressive and show-worthy talent. We will be having our class talent show on **Monday, April 22nd**. Plan to send your student with whatever he/she may need to perform. We won't have a piano available. If needed, you could record a short video of your child's talent and email it to me. If you're sending a video, please have it to me by the day before (at least). Then, I can plan our time accordingly. Top performers will then have their names put into a hat for a chance to perform at the school-wide talent show. You will be notified if your child is selected.

First Grade will be going on a field trip to Tracy Aviary!!! It will be on Tuesday, May 7th. Chaperones were picked on a "first come, first served" basis. Background Checks are required for all chaperones and must be done at the district office. It costs \$35, but is supposed to last a lifetime. **All background checks must be completed at least one month before the field trip.**

Don't forget to mail off your Flat Stanley as soon as you can! Hopefully, you can send it to someone outside of Utah. Whenever it comes back, simply send it to school for all of us to enjoy.

If you still have an "All About Me" poster, please return it as soon as possible.

Take Home Readers need to be returned on **Tuesday!** Make sure they are signed off or the volunteers will not change the books. Be sure to sign the correct bag number!

Library Books need to be returned on **Wednesday!**

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

4/22	Class Talent Day
	PTA Spirit Night at Handel's in Saratoga Springs 12-10pm
4/24	Acadience Math Testing
4/29	Shark Readers Meeting 9:00am
5/7	Field Trip to Tracy Aviary
5/8	Acadience Reading Testing

Reading

Our reading groups will be applying our phonics skill from last week (vowel teams: ai/ay, oi/oy, au/aw) 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 the people in our lives who help us. While reading different texts, we'll discuss how good readers reread to make sure they understand what they are reading. We'll also identify the author's purpose. We can use clues in the text to help us identify why the author wrote the text.

Make sure that your child comprehends what they are reading. Check their comprehension by having them tell you about the story verbally or in writing. Have them tell you what happened

(beginning, middle, & end). Have them tell you the lesson from the story (if there is one). Have them tell you the most important part (or a favorite part) and why.

Heart Words: brother father friend mother

Word Work/Phonics

We will learn about more vowel teams this week. A vowel team has 2 or 3 letters side by side that are pronounced as 1 vowel sound. This week, we'll learn about ea and ow (ie: bread, thread, heap, team, brow, growl, glow, shown, etc.). These vowel teams can be a bit tricky because the same spelling can represent different pronunciations.

Writing

We will be spending the next couple of weeks brainstorming and working on our Mother's Day projects. So, I won't tell you too much. But, it would be helpful to think with your child about ways that he/she is the same and different from his/her mom. Try to think beyond the obvious (boy/girl, tall/short, etc.) and come up with different activities or favorite things (movies, foods, etc.) that make you similar and different.

Otherwise, we will learn about possessive pronouns. Pronouns are words that take the place of nouns. A possessive pronoun shows who or what has or owns something. Some possessive nouns are used before nouns. For example, "My house is white" or "Julie lost her tooth." "My" and "her" are possessive pronouns. Other examples would include "your, his, its, our, their."

Math

We are still working on adding with two-digit numbers. In particular this week, we want to be able to add a two-digit number and another two-digit number. This will allow us to use a variety of strategies that we've been exploring. We could add multiples of ten ($45+30$) or two-digit and one-digit numbers ($25+8$). Plus, we can look specifically at the tens and ones to help us add. When solving $75+22$, I can add the tens ($7 \text{ tens} + 2 \text{ tens} = 9 \text{ tens}$) and the ones ($5 \text{ ones} + 2 \text{ ones} = 7 \text{ ones}$). Then I can put the tens and ones back together ($9 \text{ tens} + 7 \text{ ones} = 97$).

Occasionally, this means we need to group the ones together to make another ten. For example, when solving $32+29$, I can see that there are more than ten ones. I can combine them to make another ten. Now, I have 6 tens and 1 one. So, $32+29=61$. Be careful how you discuss when regrouping happens. You may have learned it as "borrowing", but it's important conceptually to have students understand that those ten ones make another ten.

