



First Grade Newsletter

Miss Earle's Class



Note From Miss Earle

The days are really starting to wind down, aren't they? We have some crazy May Day fun planned. Your student will receive a copy of the schedule today. 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!

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 Tuesday!! THIS IS A CHANGE FROM OUR USUAL SCHEDULE!

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 - Please have your child in attendance!
4/29	Shark Readers Meeting 9:00am
5/7	Field Trip to Tracy Aviary
5/8	Acadience Reading Testing - Please have your child in attendance!
5/24	PTA Spirit Night at Swig in Saratoga Springs

Reading

Our reading groups will be applying our phonics skill from last week (vowel teams: ea/ow) 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 different kinds of weather and how it affects our lives. 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 retell events in a story using cause and effect. A cause is the reason why something happens. An effect is what happens.

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: been children month question year their

Word Work/Phonics

We will introduce a new syllable type this week called "vowel-r" or "bossy r". It takes 2 letters to spell the vowel-r pattern. The vowel-r pattern has 1 vowel followed by "r" which affects the way the

vowel sound is produced. There are 3 vowel-r sounds: /ar/ like "hard, sharp, smart", /or/ like "fork, porch, born" and /er/ like "firm, curl, perk". The /er/ sound has 3 spelling possibilities: er, ir, ur. That may make for a bit of a challenge this week.

Writing

We are still conferencing and publishing our Mother's Day projects. So, I can't tell you much. ☺ However, we will learn about some special pronouns that do not refer to a specific person, place, thing or number. "Anyone" means "any person". "Everyone" means "all people". "Anything" means "no special thing". "Everything" means "all things". "Nothing" means "no thing". "Somebody" means "no special person".

Math

We have done fairly well with adding two-digit numbers within 100. Some students could use some continued practice. However, we are starting to move on to another unit about geometry. We need to recognize important attributes of shapes. For example, color is not an important attribute, but the number of sides is an important attribute. Then, we'll use those attributes to sort shapes into groups. We are working with 2D & 3D shapes. As you work with your child at home, you might discuss a particular shape and go on a shape hunt around the house. This would allow him/her to define important attributes and find those attributes/shapes around him/her. We will also use our knowledge of shape attributes to do some shape fill-ins. We need to be able to use smaller shapes to make a bigger shape. This applies to 2D & 3D shapes.