



First Grade Newsletter Miss Earle's Class



Note From Miss Earle

This week, you can access our **April Book Order** pages. Please go online to order. Go to <https://orders.scholastic.com/GVXR4>. This will connect you to our class ordering page. Please have your order completed by **Friday, April 12th**. You can view the digital flyers at <https://clubs.scholastic.com/grade1>.

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

4/10	Pink Shirt Day #Stand4Kind
4/12	Fun Friday - Western Day! Book Orders Due
4/22	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 before Spring Break (vowel teams: ee, igh, oa, oe) 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 ways people can work together to make things better. 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 theme of a text. The theme is the big idea or message of the story. We can use clues in the text to help us identify the theme.

We have practiced almost all of our First Grade Heart Words. These are words that don't follow typical spelling/phonics patterns. So, we need to know them "by heart". Take some time to review the whole list in your child's homework folder. Practice any that your child may struggle to remember. The more practice the better! Sometimes, it can take up to 70 or more exposures to a word before it is really known! So, practice, practice, practice!

Heart Words: brought door enough eyes answer

Word Work/Phonics

We will learn about more predictable 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 ai, ay, oi, oy, au and aw (ie: pain, trail, stay, day, join, soil, boy, toy, launch, haul, straw, yawn, etc.). It's important to note that the position of the vowel team indicates the correct spelling. Some vowel teams only occur at the end of a syllable or word (ie: ay, oy). Other vowel teams only occur in the middle of a syllable or word (ie: ai, oi, au). Then, there are exceptions. Vowel team aw usually occurs at the end of a syllable or word, but can be found in the middle sometimes.

Writing

We will continue learning about how to write opinions. We want to have a topic, to give clear reasons (at least 2-3), and to finish with a closing sentence. We'll practice writing opinions with clear reasons on a few different topics. I want first graders to give quality reasons instead of the standard: "I like it" or "It's awesome." We'll work toward having reasons that can convince others to change their minds.

Otherwise, we will learn about pronouns. A noun is a person, place, thing or idea. Pronouns are words that take the place of nouns. Pronouns can stand for a certain person or group of people. For example, instead of "John is a boy", we could replace the name with a pronoun and say "He is a boy."

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 a one-digit number. This will look a lot like "counting on". However, 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 regroup to make another ten.

