



## First Grade Newsletter Miss Earle's Class



### Note From Miss Earle

**First Grade will be going on a field trip to Tracy Aviary!!! It will be on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. Your child brought home a permission form last week. Please fill it out and return it ASAP. Information regarding chaperones and school lunches is included in detail on the permission form. Chaperones will be 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. Please make an accurate account of whether or not your child will be getting school lunch. Our lunch workers will need to know exactly how many lunches to have ready. All permission forms need to be filled out and returned by Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

There are a few students that are consistently arriving late. This worries me because every moment at school is precious. When your child arrives late, he/she is missing instruction time. That time quickly adds up over the weeks and months of school. I don't want your child to miss anything! We start promptly at 8:00am. It's best to have your student at school 5-10 minutes before that time. Please help your first grader get to school on time!!!

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

3/22	Field Trip Permission Forms Due
3/25	Shark Readers Meeting 9:00am
3/25-3/29	Book Fair in the Library
4/1-4/5	Spring Break - No School
4/5	Yearbook Orders Due
4/22	PTA Spirit Night at Handel's in Saratoga Springs 12-10pm
4/24	Acadience Math Testing
5/7	Field Trip to Tracy Aviary
5/8	Acadience Reading Testing

### Reading

Our reading groups will be applying our phonics skill from the week before last (phonograms: all, oll, alk) 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 sounds and how they are made. While reading different texts, we'll discuss how good readers make ask and answer questions while they read. We'll also retell the events from a text by identifying the problem, the steps to the solution and the solution.

Make sure that your child comprehends what they are reading. 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 it was important (or why it was a favorite

part). Sometimes, students can decode and read well, but they struggle with answering simple comprehension questions.

*Heart Words:* color instead nothing oh thought

### **Word Work/Phonics**

We will review phonograms this week. A phonogram is a series of letters that represents one or more sounds. The vowel sound changes in a phonogram. This week, we'll review all of our previous phonograms (-ing, -ang, -ong, -ink, -ank, -onk, -ild, -ind, -old, -olt, -ost, -all, -oll and -alk (ie: sing, bang, long, wink, thank, honk, mild, kind, cold, bolt, post, ball, doll, talk, etc.)). These are sneaky words because they look like they have a closed syllable and require a short vowel sound, but they actually have a different vowel sound.

### **Writing**

We will continue exploring how to write animal reports. We are learning how to gather information from texts. Taking notes is a skill we need in order to gather information from different texts. It is usually fairly easy to take notes, but it's hard for first graders to turn notes into sentences in a report.

Otherwise, we will learn about special adjectives called articles. We use "a" before a word that begins with a consonant sound (ie: "a hound"). We use "an" before a word that begins with a vowel sound ("an ape"). We use "this" when talking about a thing or person that is close by. We use "that" when talking about a thing or person that is far away.

### **Math**

We had a little trouble working with time to the half-hour last week. Many students had trouble placing the hour hand at the correct position on the analog clock. It's tricky to place it between the numbers to get the hour right. We'll continue to review this topic. However, we are also going to work on a new topic. Please continue to practice telling time at home.

We will be reviewing our understanding of larger numbers. We'll review our 100s chart and place value knowledge. Students should be able to identify one more, one, less, ten more and ten less than any given number. Students should be able to identify how many "tens" and "ones" are in a given number. These skills will prepare us to work on adding with two-digit numbers next week.

We'll continue to fit in our fact pages as time allows. This week, we are working on -9. In order to meet our goal of doing a complete page in 5 minutes, we are timing each row for a minute at a time. Usually, we can finish a row in a minute. I know that the more we do it the better we get. Watch for these papers to come home with your student. Feel free to correct any wrong answers or simply finish the problems if necessary.