



## First Grade Newsletter Miss Earle's Class



### Note From Miss Earle

In March, the book for Shark Readers is Leprechaun in Late Winter by Mary Pope Osborne. This is one of the books from the *Magic Tree House Series*. Start reading now so that you can finish before the end of the month!

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.

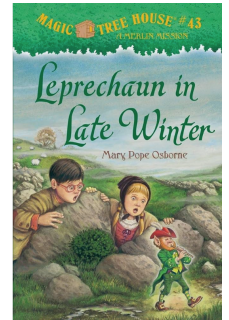
If you still have an "All About Me" poster, please return it as soon as possible.

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 DO NOT need to be returned this week. We will be missing library due to the Battle of the Books Competition (upper grades). Keep that library book in a safe place and we'll turn it in next week.

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

3/8	Fun Friday
3/11	Professional Development - No School
3/12	Teacher Work Day - No School
3/13	Pink Shirt Day #Stand4Kind
3/14	Spring Picture Day
3/25	Shark Readers Meeting 9:00am
3/25-3/29	Book Fair in the Library
4/1-4/5	Spring Break - No School

### Reading

Our reading groups will be applying our phonics skill from last week (phonograms: ild, ind, old, olt & ost) 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 inventors and the inventions they 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 to encourage your child to read with expression! We want our readers to sound like they're talking. They should be watching for question marks & exclamation marks to help them show expression.

**Heart Words:**            began            better            learn            write

### Word Work/Phonics

We will continue learning about phonograms this week. A phonogram is a series of letters that represents one or more sounds. Phonograms can affect the way we hear and say the vowel sound. This week, we'll focus on -all, -oll and -alk (ie: ball, doll, talk, etc.). These phonogram

word chunks have 1 vowel followed by 2 consonants. 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. That means we'll need to learn these phonograms as word chunks.

### Writing

We begin focusing and exploring different types of writing. This week, we'll focus on "How To" Books. These are books that allow us to explore how to sequence instructions and include details. We want to break things down (step-by-step). Plus, we want to include temporal words (ie: first, next, last, etc.) to tell what is happening.

Otherwise, we will learn about adjectives that compare. We add "er" to most adjectives to compare two people, places or things. We add "est" to most adjectives to compare three or more people, places or things. For example, "He is faster than her" & "She is the fastest on the team".

### Math

We are still working with our understanding of place value (tens and ones) this week. We are pretty good at making tens. By the end of the week, we should be able to write a number in its expanded form. For example, 29 would be  $20+9$ . This helps us really separate and see the tens and ones. Plus, it reminds us that "2 tens" is actually "20." Later in the year, we'll need this knowledge and ability in order to add using larger numbers (mostly 2-digit numbers). We'll also take some time to practice using math symbols ( $>$ ,  $<$ ,  $=$ ) with larger numbers.

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.