



First Grade Newsletter Miss Earle's Class



Note From Miss Earle

Thank you for your support during the Halloween Parade and our class party. They were both a great success! It was great to see everyone and have so much support.

Our school district has recently put out a memo about volunteers having background checks. If I'm reading correctly, this is necessary when an adult is alone with students. Usually, our class volunteers are in our actual classroom and within my eyesight. However, it is recommended that frequent visitors have a background check completed. Please see the attached memo for further details and let me know if you have any questions.

This week, you can access our November Book Order pages. Please go online to order. Go to <https://orders.scholastic.com/GVXR4>. This will connect you to our class ordering page. If you already have a Scholastic Book Account, you may need to login and use our class code (GVXR4) to ensure your order is sent to me. Please have your order completed by Friday, November 10th. You can view the digital flyers at <https://clubs.scholastic.com/grade1>.

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

11/6-10	Patriotic Week
11/6	School Spirit Night at Costa Vida 5-9pm
11/8	Pink Shirt Day #Stand4Kind
11/10	Fun Friday - Crazy Hair Day! Book Orders Due
11/13	PTA Healthy Minds Night 7pm
11/22-24	Thanksgiving Break - No School
11/27	Shark Readers Meeting 9:00am

Reading

Our reading groups will be applying our phonics skill from last week (r- blends) to reading a decodable text. If students have already mastered that skill, they may receive a leveled book to read. On another note, I know it's easy to get distracted this time of year, but please READ with your child. Take Home Readers are an easy option, but anything will do. This is vital to their growth in reading!

During shared reading, we'll be talking and reading about maps and how to use them. While reading different texts, we'll discuss how good readers go back to reread when they need help understanding what happened in a story. We'll also talk about how to retell a nonfiction story by identifying the main idea and key details.

Heart Words: around by many place walk

Word Work/Phonics

We will be introducing initial 3-letter blends this week. Students will identify, read and write words that start and end with these blends (in isolation and in passages). A 3-letter blend has 3 consonants side by side before the vowel. Each consonant in a blend is pronounced. We'll learn this new skill while still practicing closed syllable words. Remember, closed syllables have 1 vowel letter followed by 1 or more consonants and the vowel sound is short (ie: scrub, splat, sprint, strip, etc.).

Writing

We are doing short mini-lessons on handwriting at the beginning of our writing time. This week we will look at more letters with curves - Pp, Bb & Ss. These letters can be trickier so we may spend more than one day on them as needed. Below are some prompts to help as you practice this letter at home. Don't forget - THERE ARE NO LETTERS THAT START AT THE BOTTOM!!

P - down, up, around

p - down, up, around

B - down, back up, around, around

b - down, up, around

S - over, around, curve

s - over, around, curve

During Writer's Workshop, we will learn about irregular plural nouns. Usually, we had -s or -es to show that a noun has more than one. However, there are a few nouns that change spelling completely. For example, "man" becomes "men" or "child" becomes "children." We want to recognize when a noun has more than one even when the spelling may change.

Math

We are going to start introducing subtraction. We'll talk about the subtraction symbol (-) and what it means. We need to remember to subtract from the bigger number. That means we have to "count backwards". We will discuss different strategies for solving subtraction problems. Feel free to work on subtraction at home, but only if your child is confident in their addition skills. In first grade, we need to be able to add and subtract to 20 (which means up to 10+10). However, addition skills should be mastered first. Explore your child's abilities and decide what you need to work on. If your child can accurately add and subtract within 20, try building speed/fluency with those facts.

We'll continue to fit in our fact pages as time allows. This week, we are working on -3. 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 (next week). Feel free to correct any wrong answers or simply finish the problems if necessary.