



First Grade Newsletter

Miss Earle's Class



Note From Miss Earle

The Book Fair is set up in the library this week. We will still have library time, but it will be spent looking at books in the Book Fair. If your child is planning to spend money there, you can send it to school on Wednesday. Please put it in an envelope/bag with your child's name on it. Please tell your child what he/she can spend the money on (ie: books, posters, pens, etc.). Our library time is 1:35-2:05pm. Otherwise, the Book Fair will be open Wednesday & Thursday during parent/teacher conferences. Plus, Mrs. Christensen couldn't do it without volunteers! If you're willing to volunteer in the Book Fair, please go to https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/15zIRDVsjiT65IqX_79YUiox99726-6TECHYcU95ygHQ/edit#gid=1661004377. You can also use the QR Code that was sent home last week with your child's book fair flyer.

Halloween is coming soon! It will be crazy, I'm sure. We will be having our Halloween Parade in the morning (about 8:15am). It is a good idea to be early. Parents should gather in the gym. Please walk to the school if you can. It will be very crowded and there is limited parking. Plus, we have some preschool buses that will need to get in and out during that time. Students walk through the hallways and then through the gym. Please avoid lining up in the hallways because they will be crowded enough with students as it is. Your child can wear their Halloween costume (of course!), but there are some guidelines. There can be no weapons, any depiction of death, violence, drugs, alcohol, smoking, or obscenities. Costume masks can only be worn during the parade. Students can paint their faces. Have your child in a costume that they can comfortably wear ALL DAY! They need to be able to go to the bathroom, have lunch, play at recess, and more IN THEIR COSTUME. Please plan appropriately!!

We will also have our class party on the afternoon before from 12:30-1:30pm. You are welcome to come help us out. In fact, our room mom has created a sign-up for the Halloween Party on Monday, October 30th from 12:30-1:30pm. If you are interested, please sign up at [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4BA8AA2EA2FD0-44947716-miss#/.](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4BA8AA2EA2FD0-44947716-miss#/) Thanks!

Parent/Teacher Conferences are this week! If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to sign up for a conference on Skyward. I've attached a reminder video if you've forgotten how. Plus, you can contact the office with further scheduling questions. We'll have 10-minute appointments from 4:00-7:30pm on Wednesday 10/25 & Thursday 10/26. I'll do my best to stay on schedule. If you think you'll need more time, please let me know and I can attempt to block out a longer conference for you. I will have information about how your student is doing academically so far. If you have other questions, please let me know. You can also take some time to visit the Book Fair on those evenings (before 7:00pm). I look forward to seeing you!

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!

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

10/24-27	Book Fair in the Library
10/25-26	Parent/Teacher Conferences
10/30	Class Halloween Party 12:30-1:30pm
10/31	Halloween
11/2	Make-up Picture Day

Reading

Our reading groups will be applying our phonics skill from before Fall Break (s-blends) to reading a decodable text. When possible, each group may also have a leveled book to read. You can also work on making our reading sound like talking. We don't want our reading to sound choppy and robot like. We want to be really smooth. Practice re-reading books until it sounds really smooth like talking. Some groups are training our eyes to follow the words (without pointing). Pointing can sometimes make us choppy. We're really practicing and training our eyes to move a little faster and help us be smooth.

During shared reading, we'll be talking and reading about different places that animals live. 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 topic and sharing key details.

Heart Words: eat no of under who here

Word Work/Phonics

We will be introducing l- and t- blends this week. Students will identify, read and write words that start and end with these blends (in isolation and in passages). An l- or t- blend has 2 consonants side by side. 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: clam, glad, help, lift, hunt, etc.).

Writing

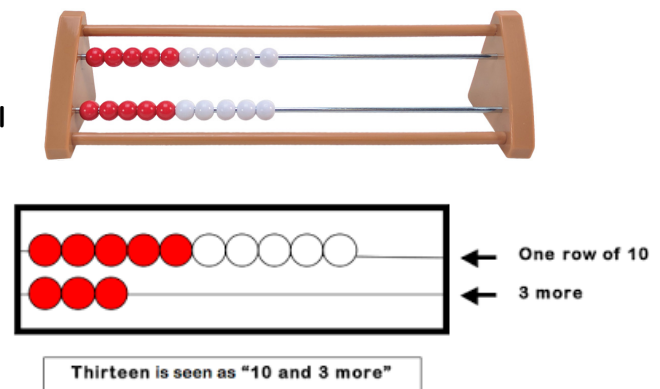
We are doing short mini-lessons on handwriting at the beginning of our writing time. This week we will look at more letters with curves - Ee, Aa & Dd. These letters can be trickier so we may spend more than one day on them as needed. Below are some prompts to help as you practice this letter at home.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

E - down, across, across, across	e - across, over, around and open
A - slant down, slant down, across	a - over, around, up, down
D - down, back up, around	d - over, around, up, down

During Writer's Workshop, we will learn possessive nouns. Writers use an apostrophe and the letter s at the end of many nouns to say that someone or something owns something. We'll also review some helpful conventions to use in our daily writing (ie: spaces between words).

Math

We will spend this week learning about a new tool called a rekenrek. It is very similar to an abacus. This can be a useful tool when adding to help us see parts of numbers. An example of how we will use our rekenreks is shown. Once we are comfortable with rekenreks, we'll use this tool to start solving problems with missing addends. An example of a missing addend problem is $5 + ? = 7$. You can use rekenreks to solve that by moving 5 balls along and counting how many more you would need to get seven across all together.



We'll continue to fit in our fact pages as time allows. This week, we are working on -2. 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.