



# First Grade Newsletter

## Miss Earle's Class



### Note From Miss Earle

First Grade will be holding some **Reading Meetings for Parents** in the coming weeks. Each meeting is geared toward meeting the needs of specific students (ie: low vs. high readers). I will be sending you an invite to let you know which meeting I recommend for you to attend. If you are unable to attend, I will try to send home to information digitally. Please mark your calendars and I hope to see you there!

In Social Studies, we will be learning about people and their roles in our school and community. **We are interested in having a few people share information about their occupations with us**, such as fireman, policeman, nurse/doctor, mechanic, grocer or mail carrier, etc. Students will be brainstorming interview questions, but you should come ready to share some basics of your job/responsibilities. Visuals (tools, materials, etc.) that you use at your job are welcome. We are planning to hold these interviews **September 25-29. If you are interested in participating, please send me an email.**

I know that many of you are still in possession of your **"All About Me" posters**. If you could get those filled out and returned as soon as possible, that would be marvelous. We'll use one every week to focus on a student. A student's week may or may not coincide with his/her birthday.

**Library Books** need to be returned on Wednesday!!

**School Spirit Days** are on Friday! Wear school colors or school shirts. If you didn't already know, our school colors are purple, green and gray. Go sharks!

Please always feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. ☺

### Dates to Remember

9/11-9/22	Direct Donation School Fundraiser
9/13	Pink Shirt Day #Stand4Kind Vision Screening - Please have your child in attendance!
9/14	Acadience Math Testing - Please have your child in attendance! Parent Reading Meeting for Low-Med Readers (by invitation) 3:30-4pm
9/21	Parent Reading Meeting for Med-High Readers (by invitation) 3:30-4pm
9/25	Shark Readers Meeting 9:30am

### Reading

Our reading groups will be applying our phonics skill from last week (short i) to reading a decodable text. Plus, I'll also try to have each group have a leveled book to read. Remember to always have your child make an attempt to solve unknown words. They can use the pictures, check the beginning sounds, or even start to sound out words.

During shared reading, we'll be talking and reading about what makes pets special and how to take care of them. While reading different texts, we'll discuss how we can use the words and illustrations to visualize or create pictures in our minds. This is one strategy that helps us understand the text. We'll also talk about using key details to retell what happens in a story.

**Heart Words:** be come good pull

### Word Work/Phonics

We will be focusing on the short a sound. However, there will be some ongoing review of sight words and blending. Plus, we will introduce syllables (parts of words) and phoneme segmentation (separating sounds in words). There are 6 different syllable types. Learning the 6 syllable types is key to reading more accurately and fluently. We will be learning about closed syllable words. Closed syllables have 1 vowel letter followed by 1 or more consonants and the vowel sound is short (ie: cat, fed, rip, etc.).

## Writing

We are doing short mini-lessons on handwriting at the beginning of our writing time. We need to finish a letter from last week: Kk. Then, we will look at letters with tunnels - Nn & Hh. These letters get trickier as we go so we may spend more than one day on a letter as needed. Below are some prompts to help as you practice these letters at home. There is a formation guide in the homework folder as well. Don't forget - THERE ARE NO LETTERS THAT START AT THE BOTTOM!!

K - down, slant in, slant out

k - dow . . . n, slant in, slant out

N - down, slant down, up

n - down, up, over

H - down, down, across

h - dow . . . n, up, over

During Writer's Workshop, we will be talking about a particular type of sentence: statements. Statements are sentences that tell something. We need to remember that a statement ends with a period. We'll also continue talking about how to make descriptive sentences. A sentence needs to tell a whole idea (with a capital and a period). A descriptive sentence tells about size, look, number, shape or color. Try turning a simple sentence into a descriptive sentence. For example, "I have a cat." could become "I have a white and black cat that is soft."

## Math

We continue working with addition this week. This is a skill that will take lots of work throughout the year. Last week, we focused a lot on the strategies we could use (fingers, number line, etc.) and being able to "count on" to find the answer. Please encourage your child to "count on" as he/she adds at home. This week, we will continue building our understanding of addition by learning about our "ten friends" (numbers that add to make ten).

We will also start practicing some fact pages this week. The goal in first grade is to get 90% accurate in 5 minutes. This will take some practice. We'll start with our +0 facts. Sometimes it can be trickier than you think to add with a zero. Watch for these papers to come home with your student. Feel free to correct any wrong answers or simply finish the problems if necessary.