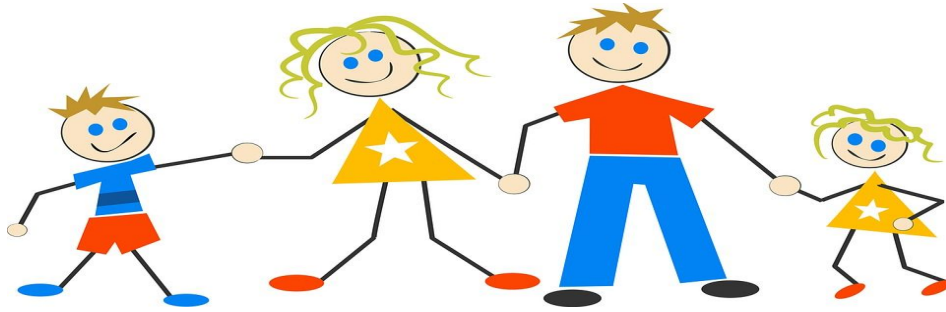
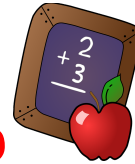


Mrs. Balsewicz's 1st Grade May Newsletter



Math Workshop



Math: Wow, I can't believe this will be our last Newsletter for the year. This year has gone so fast. The students have helped to make math class so much fun. I am so proud of each and every student and how much they have learned.

Over the next 4 weeks we will continue to emphasize a growth mindset; Challenges make the brain grow!

The students will be taking the Math, MAP Test on the morning of May 22nd. Please have your child eat a good breakfast that morning and get plenty of rest the night before.

The students will continue to work on adding and subtracting numbers within 100 along with story problems. The following are examples of the types of story problems that we focus on: Fred had 16 fruit snacks and his mom gave if 12 more. How many fruit snacks does fred have? Fred had 16 fruit snacks and his mom gave him some more. Now he has 28 fruit snacks. How many did his mom give him? Fred had 16 fruit snacks and he gave 12 to his friend. How many fruit snacks does Fred have now? Please be sure to look over this months Math

Newsletter that was sent home last week with examples of the story problems we do in 1st grade. These are great examples to continue to work on during the summer months to help avoid the summer slide. Using the same type of problems with bigger numbers will increase the challenge for the students.

The practice math facts that were sent home for homework was to help those students to be more fluent with counting on 1, 2, 3 or 0 numbers. They



Writer's Workshop

For Writer's Workshop, the students will choose the type of writing they would like to do, narrative, nonfiction (informational, opinion) and fiction. We will continue to focus on writing 1st grade works correctly, if not independently, with their word wall (Sheet with all the spelling words spelled correctly), along with adding capital letters and punctuation where it belongs. The students have been working on using transition words to help make a smooth transition between thoughts and ideas.



Snack Reminders and Cautions:

First grade has snack every day at approximately 1:20. It's amazing how hungry the children are for snack. It must be all that brain power being used! If you want them to have a snack in the afternoon, please plan on sending one with them. (Great teaching opportunity in independence, have your child pick out their own snack and put it in their backpack before they go to bed)

We have a couple of students with peanut allergies in our classroom. No snacks should be sent to school containing peanuts/peanut butter. Thank you for your

cooperation!

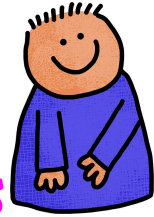


Due to some scheduling conflicts, children are unable to pick out books on Fridays, during snack. All other days are open.

To keep distractions to a minimum, please have your child keep all jewelry at home. Please encourage your child to keep all toys in their backpack while at school. Thank you for your help!



1st Grade Positive Happenings



In 1st grade I believe, "We are all good", it's the choices we make, that are good or bad! I see discipline not as a punishment but rather an opportunity for learning! Positive reinforcement is used in the classroom, such as positive comments, high fives, stickers, a pat on the back, etc. As a class, the children can earn pom-poms for good choices that are made during class. When the jar is full, the children will decide and vote as a group what they would like to do for a party (voting and group decision making is a standard in Social Studies). Watch for emails regarding the earned parties. In addition to class rewards, the children can also earn individual tickets for good choices. Once they have earned 10, they may turn them in for a prize of their choosing from the prize box.

However, at times their needs to be consequences for our actions, just like in the "real world". Holding students accountable for their actions is not a punishment but rather an opportunity to make the students responsible. Both empathy and consequences drive the

