



Room 17
October Newsletter

Our class is off to a great start! The students are acclimating to the challenges of first grade. Thank you to all who came to Back to School Night. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. We are a team when it comes to your child's education.

Reading

In reading, we have covered the letters a, h, m, s, and t. We are beginning to discover the various ways we can combine these letters to create words. We will continue to move through the alphabet in October.

We have almost finished our first unit called "Let's Read" and will start our second unit called "Animals" next week.

We will continue to send home 2 to 3 decodable books home every week in your child's homework folder. Please have your child read these stories to you several times. This will help your child remember high frequency words and work on decoding skills, which in turn will help with their speed and fluency. Don't forget to include other books in your daily reading and ask your child simple comprehension questions, like: Who was the main character? Where did this story take place? Can you summarize the story for me (tell it in your own words)?

High frequency Words

Continue to practice Unit 1 high frequency words (sight words) at home. After your child can read all the words, you may have your child work on spelling the words. We will continue to practice these words at school, too. The students will be tested on these words for report cards. Unit 2 words will come home soon.

Book It

The Book It reading program in collaboration with Pizza Hut, starts this month. This is an extra reading program we participate in. Your child has the opportunity to earn a free pizza from Pizza Hut each month if they reach their monthly reading goal. Information was sent home in this week's homework folder.

Writing

We are also learning when and where to use capital letters, such as, a person's name, name of cities and states, and at the beginning of a sentence.

The students' penmanship is improving. Please continue to have your child practice neat penmanship at home and in their homework.

Math

In math, we have completed chapters one and two on addition. We have learned new vocabulary terms such as sum, addition sentence, order property, equals and plus sign. We have also learned how to make different addition sentences that add up to the same sum.

We have begun chapter 3 and 4 practicing subtraction. We have learned new vocabulary: minus sign and difference.

In class we have been using many different types of manipulatives to help students visualize the math facts being taught. Using beans, buttons, blocks, or pennies at home will help you child visualize the facts, too.

Our goal for early November is to not only have the children understand the concept of addition and subtraction through 5, but to memorize these facts as well. You can purchase flashcards at Long's or other stores to help reinforce memorization. Continue to practice writing numbers correctly at home, too.

Science/Social Studies/H3

In Science we have been studying plants. Specifically plant parts, how those parts help the plant, and what plants need to grow. We did a few experiments, predicted and then observed the outcome. We also read from our science textbooks. We will head into the chapter on animals next.

In Social Studies we have been learning about being a good citizen, making rules, respect and "The Golden Rule".

In H3, we introduced all eight great traits- Caring, Honesty, Responsibility, Integrity, Respect for Others, Citizenship, Planning and Decision Making, and Problem Solving.

Please read the attached information on our service-learning project called "Classroom Cares".

Library

Room 17's library day is on Thursdays from 11:05-11:35. Students will be allowed to check out two books of their choice. Please read these books with your child and have them returned to school by **Wednesday**. Children who fail to return their books on time will not be

able to check out books on the following library visit.

Thank You

Thanks to all the parents who have volunteered to help in Room 17, at home, and on field trips. Our class would not be the same without your help! Thanks for your continued support at school and home.

Also, thank you to all the families that were able to donate money and supplies to our class this year! Your support is greatly appreciated!

Snacks

Most children are hungry at the 10:15 recess. Please send a nutritious snack with your child even if they are buying lunch.

Art Reach

The art program we talked about on Back to School Night is called ArtReach. The votes are tallied and 90% of the families voted yes. We mailed in our application and are awaiting a response as to our time and date of the first class. Remember the voluntary donation was \$20 to cover the class. We will be collecting this at a later time from all willing families. We attached a green paper with a little explanation of the program if you were curious for more info.

Room Parent

Unfortunately no one volunteered to be room parents at Back to School Night. We would like one room parent and a few other parents to give him/her a hand with things. The room parent is in charge of planning the three class parties (Halloween, Winter Holiday, and Valentines Day). If you are interested let us know. The PTO does give you a handbook of how to plan the parties.

Schedule Change!

Our schedule has changed! Our PE and Computer times have changed with the addition of another PE teacher – Mr. Henriquez. This also changes around our schedule, too. The new schedule will start next week. A new revised schedule will be sent home soon. **Have your child dressed for P.E. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays starting next week!**

Dates to Remember

October 3 – Early Dismissal 12:05

October 11 - Progress Reports

Home

October 16 – Oakland Zoo Field Trip

(bag lunch needed)

October 18- Fall Stampede



Wear tennis shoes

October 22-26 Red Ribbon Week

October 30 – Picture Day

October 31 - Halloween

Early Dismissal 12:35

November 7 – Early Dismissal 12:05

Contact Info

If you have any questions or concerns please call or e-mail us at:

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