

# First Grade Newsletter September 2019



## Welcome to First Grade!

What we are learning to prepare us to be College and Career Ready using the Common Core State Standards: <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards>

### What We're Learning:

**Reading:** Initially, students will be assessed using the Fountas and Pinnell reading program in order to determine their reading level for their guided reading groups. We will be using Teacher's College Reading and Writing Program and Mondo for Shared and Guided Reading. We will be working on identifying story elements in a text, making connections with characters in the text, retelling stories by using key details, and demonstrating understanding of the central message or lesson, asking questions and making inferences. To support our growth in Phonemic Awareness, Phonics and Reading fluency, we will be using Foundations.

**Writing:** The students are engaged in the launching of the Writing Workshop. Children will view themselves as authors. We want children to discover that the things that happen to them each day are stories worth sharing. Children think of small moments to write a narrative. They will choose topics from their lives, plan for writing, draft, revise, edit, and publish. We will celebrate their writing during our **Publishing Party**.

**Math:** The **Go Math** Program allows children the opportunity to represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction using drawing, adding to, taking from and hands-on strategies. Daily homework will be assigned to extend and reinforce the learning done in class.

**Science:** The new **NGSS STANDARDS** now provide opportunities into exploring light and solar patterns of the sun, moon and stars for living things. This will be followed by an introduction to the concept of light and sound waves. Finally, the last unit introduces us to heredity with a focus on structures and behaviors of living things that help them survive in their environment.

**Social Studies:** Our first Unit, Families Are Important focuses on why families are important, how families are different, how families share customs and beliefs, how families around the world are alike and different, and the needs and wants of families. We will also compare maps and globes during the Geography lessons.

### Sight Words:

Our focus is on multiple sight words this year. Your child should also be able to instantly recognize and tell you a sentence using each word. Three- Five sight words will be given per week for homework. Please review with your child the following words for this month:

**September 9-13: the, a, and, is, his**

**September 16-20: of, at, I, you, she**

**September 23-27: as, has, to, into, we**

**It is VERY IMPORTANT that you sign and return all letters in your child's Take-Home Folder immediately. Also, please empty out the KEEP HOME side of your child's folder every night.**

### **\*Things your child should know\***

- 1) How to write their first and last name
- 2) Home phone number and address

### **Trips:**

Be on the lookout!! Check your child's Take-Home folder for the permission slip. **Please return them before the day they are due.**

### **Important Dates:**

September 5- First Day of School

Sept. 12, 2019- Parent Teacher Conference

Sept. 30-Oct. 1 **SCHOOL CLOSED ROSH HASHANAH**