

Room 17 News



Mrs. Thomas' 1st Grade

September 28, 2018

Mrs. Thomas' Classroom Newsletter

Welcome Back!

It has been a busy, fun filled first few weeks. We have been practicing center rotations in ELA and math, as well as learning to choose books for our browsing boxes. There are so many rules, routines and everyday practices to learn! It takes some time before they become automatic.

Language Arts

In the beginning of first grade I use the students' reading levels from the end of kindergarten to determine the books in their browsing boxes, until I can assess each student on my own. Likewise, the books they take home are from this level as well. In readers' workshop, we have been busy reading! We read together as groups. We read independently. We read to each other. We listen to stories that are read aloud to us. We discuss stories and what we think +

Don't forget to read each night for homework! This one small act can snowball in a very good way. The more you read together now, the more skills they pick up on. So please, cuddle up with a book together each night!

Math

There are several addition strategies we practice in the beginning of first grade. We have so far learned that the order of the addends does not affect the sum, so $3+5$ gives the same answer as $5+3$. We talked about drawing pictures, and using number lines to help us add. We also learned that it is usually easier to start counting from the bigger number, then count on. That means when you see $2+8$, think $8+2$...and count on from 8.

Science & Social Studies

As we discuss our similarities and differences in Social studies, we are also talking about ourselves, specifically our bodies, in science. We have talked about the lungs, heart, and stomach so far.

Social studies this time of year consists largely of discussing rules and expectations of behavior in school, and why these are important (personal safety, the safety & well being of others). We have also discussed some important personal character traits like perseverance and honesty.

