Mrs. Watson’s Class News

October 23, 2015

Edition 3

Hard to believe we are almost at the end of October already! There will be a Halloween parade at 10:30 a.m. on Friday. We will have our class party before and after the parade. Your child can come to school in their costume. Please, be sure to let me know if there are any restrictions for food, we are planning on nut-free snacks. 



**Thursday 10/29 and Friday 10/30 are half-days of school with dismissal at 12:15.**

Student conferences are on December 9th and 10th. Look for information the first week of November to sign-up on Sign-up Genius. 



**Pizza Hut Reading logs are due November 2nd.**

Reminder: 2nd grade information is in red font.

 1st grade is in blue font.

***Junior Achievement:***  For the past 3 weeks on Monday morning First graders have been traveling down to another first grade classroom and learning about communities. This is an excellent 5 week study put on by Community Financial Credit Union, with Mrs. Blaylock. They have two more sessions. 

The next popcorn day is November 13th!

**Curriculum Connection:**

In **Math** will start unit 3 on Monday, students will learn and practice place value, coin values and telling time. They will be collecting data and recording it in a table, practice making change, and continue to practice “Frames and Arrows” and “What’s My Rule strategies” to enhance their math skills. We will start Mad-Minutes! They should be practicing their addition & subtraction facts.

 Be sure to read and refer to the parent letters at the beginning of each unit in your student’s homelink book☺

**In Grammar, we have spent time learning about singular and plural nouns and applying our understanding. We have also studied base words; endings and prefixes. This week the spelling words had common final blends. We practiced the sounds that the blends make and looked for patterns.**

**In grammar, first grade has practiced finding and using adjectives to describe color, shape, numbers, and size. They continue to add to their language arts notebooks using provided materials to enhance their learning. They really enjoyed tasting the Poprock Candy and describing it using their senses!**

**In phonics, they have focused on the short vowel sounds and consonants, k, v, j, qu, and z. They are doing well sounding out letters and words.**

In **Writer’s Workshop**,

the students completed their fall stories! We shared them in class and they have been put into a class book.

 Unit two’s focus during writing will be informational paragraphs. This week they wrote about animal homes. They learned quite a bit by reading this week’s two informational stories from Journey’s.

They have also been working hard the past 2 weeks on a spider report. They have researched books and online to complete this research report.

The students continue to practice best handwriting skills and are encouraged to always put forth their best effort consistently.

First graders enjoy writing short stories during writer’s workshop and are beginning to add more descriptive words.

I**n Guided Reading, we have enjoyed learning about animal homes in our Journey’s book. We have looked at the text and graphic features of informational books, using them to understand the topic more. We discussed the story structure of what we are reading (beginning, middle, end, characters and setting).** 

 The first graders practiced using text and graphic features in the informational text L*ucia’s Neighborhood.* This past week they enjoyed the story *Gus Takes the Train.* The also discussed the story structure (PLOT) and completed an organizer with the beginning, middle, end, characters and setting.

In Science, the first graders have completed their insect unit. Their posters are great! They are hanging up in the hallway outside of our room. They did a great job presenting them! They had fun hiding their marshmallow insects outside (camouflage). 

We will begin a Social Studies unit on core democratic values next, focusing on Patriotism.

Second graders are currently learning about communities in Social Studies, focusing on the 3 types of communities: rural, suburb and urban. Their plant posters are displayed in the media center. They also did a great job on their projects!

Thank you for all your support from home! Looking forward to November!