



Matsunaga First Grade September Newsletter



First Quarter Curriculum:

Welcome to first grade! During the first 2 weeks of first grade, many of our students appear to be enjoying recess and lunch. However, when talking to your child about his or her day, be sure to ask them what they're doing that's new in the *classroom!* You should start hearing words such as: "Daily Math Warm-Up, DOL, Word Wall Words, Poetry book, Science, Social Studies and Book Club." It is during these times that essential instruction takes place. Speaking of instruction, we would like to fill you in on some of the Measurement

Topics (Objectives) that will be taught and assessed this quarter:

In Math:

- Add and subtract one and two-digit numbers using a variety of strategies
- Count, using a variety of strategies, to identify the number of objects in a set and identify numbers that are one more than, one less than, and between two numbers (and for acceleration, ten more and ten less)

- In Reading:
- Use letter-sounds and word parts to read unfamiliar words
- Read sight words automatically (e.g., have, said, and, here, like, this, etc.)
- Preview *before* reading, monitor *during* reading, and answer questions *after* reading
- Retell important facts
- Use story elements (characters, setting, problem and solution) to retell and sequence important events in stories
- Write stories with beginning, middle & end to express personal ideas

Issue 1
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Important Dates:

- ☺ Monday, September 28th- No School for Yom Kippur



*Great books to read with your child at home include titles by **KEVIN HENKES** and **ERIC CARLE**, whose books we'll be studying in school. **Good strategies include asking them to retell the events (beginning, middle, & end), identify the story elements (characters, setting, problem and solution) and answer simple questions after reading (such as who, what, where, when & why).

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT:

152 of our 179 first grade families attended Back to School Night! That's 85% of you!!! Thanks for your support!

****If you weren't able to attend First Grade Back to School Night, please check the Matsunaga website for a copy of the first grade teachers' slide show at: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/matsunagaes/**



REMINDERS:

HOMEWORK:

- *Please have children use pencil to complete written assignments.
- *Please remember to **sign completed homework packets in the Parent Signature box.**

SNACK:

- *There is no snack time in first grade, so please pack your child a wholesome lunch, or decide on a lunch choice before coming to school!

LUNCH MONEY:

- *Please send lunch money in large sums (preferably by check), rather than daily cash or change.
- *Please send money in a labeled envelope with your child's name & pin number.

BIRTHDAYS:

- *We do not celebrate birthday parties in school (no food or goodies please)! Teachers will acknowledge birthdays in class.
- *Invitations should only be given out IF the entire class is being invited—in order to avoid hurt feelings.