



# First Grade Newsletter

Bannockburn Elementary School  
6520 Dalroy Lane Bethesda, MD 20817  
Ms. Fagel, Mrs. Lawler, & Ms. Watson

October 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Happy Fall! Can you believe we have already completed the first full month of school? Time sure flies when your having fun. Our Back to School Night was a hit and we appreciate your continued support.



## Reading and Writing

Currently the students are learning to identify the four story elements of fictional text: characters, setting, problem, and solution. They will be completing story maps. Afterwards, we will begin a unit on nonfiction text. The children will be able to identify how fiction is different from nonfiction and will also be learning to identify various features of nonfiction text: table of contents, bold print, photographs, captions, labels, charts and graphs, and index. We will also begin to teach the students those strategies which good readers use before reading nonfiction; setting a purpose for reading, activating prior knowledge, and asking questions. In writing we will continue to focus on writing for personal expression. We are learning to use the word "I" to express ourselves and write stories about things that are happening in our lives. We are continuing our study of conventions including using capital letters for pronouns and punctuation to close our sentences.

## Science and Social Studies

During the month of October we are continuing our study of animals and insects. We will be looking at the relationship between observable features of animals and fulfilling basic needs. We will be learning about classification of animals based on basic food needs. We will also learn about about animal body parts and survival. In Social Studies we will be learning about leadership and authority. We will identify and discuss the contributions of people important in the American political system. We will also identify important symbols and practices associated with the United States.



## \* Dates to Remember:

- 10/01/10 Early Release Day
- 10/5/10-PTA Meeting 7:00pm
- 10/8/10—Help the Homeless Mini Walk (recess)
- 10/11/10—Open House (Columbus Day) 9:30am—12:00pm
- 10/15/10-No School for students-MSTA Teachers Convention
- 10/17/10 Halloween Fun Run 9:00am
- 10/22/10- Field Trip to Natural Audubon Society
- 10/27/10 Principals Coffee 9:30am
- 10/30/09- First marking period ends
- 10/30/10 Halloween Parade and Parties 2:00pm

## Math



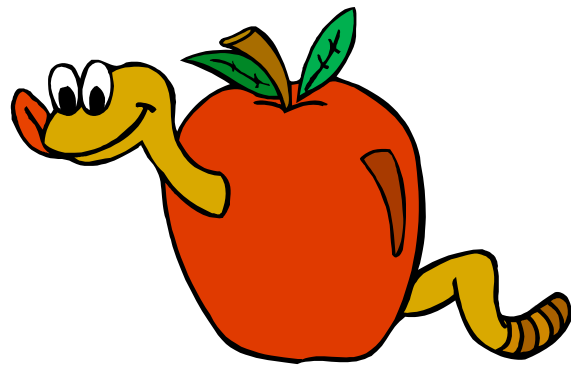
During the month of October students will continue to master the addition and subtraction facts. They will learn to solve a variety of word problems, both addition and subtraction. Students will have an opportunity to write their own word problems, trade them with a friend, and solve each others for practice. Other skills being mastered this month include identifying numbers that are one more, one less, ten more, or ten less on the hundreds chart. This is a game you can play with your child anytime, ask them what number is ten more the 64? Students will continue to participate in centers including trading places, a place value game and hot dog, an addition game.

### First Grade Birthday's

Grady October 3

Anna October 16

Saskia October 21



Audubon Naturalist Society Field Trip  
Wonderful Worms and Discovery Hunt

October 22, 2010

9:30am– 1:30pm

**Please be sure to dress weather appropriately the**

## A few of our favorite books

Ms. Fagel

[The Giving Tree](#)

[The Pout Pout Fish](#)

[Oh, The Places You'll Go](#)

Mrs. Lawler

[The Kissing Hand](#)

[Alice the Fairy](#)

[Blueberries for Sal](#)

