

First Grade October Newsletter

Critical Thinking Skills: Breaking down a whole into parts that may not be immediately obvious and examining the parts so that the structure of the whole is understood

Academic Success Skills: working effectively and respectfully to read a group goal



Reading:

This month, students will be introduced to informational texts and how they compare to fictional texts. They will also be identifying the text features of this genre.

Students continue to develop word skills by recognizing common chunks and short vowel sounds (-at, -an, -ap, etc.). Students are expected to identify these patterns as they read and write.

Writing:

Students have begun writing workshop. They are following the steps of the writing process to create narratives and informational pieces. Grammar, capitalization, and punctuation skills are emphasized through daily practice as well.

Math:

Students are working on addition and subtraction skills by modeling the concepts in various forms (with manipulatives, pictures & equations). They will be apply their understanding of addition and subtraction to solve real world problems.

Parent Conferences:

If you have not signed up for a November Parent Conference, please contact your child's reading teacher.

Science:

Students will be learning to identify the basic needs of plants, animals, and people. They will be observing how these needs are met in nature and how they are related.

Open House:

Parents are invited to visit classrooms between 9:15 and noon on Oct. 10th. Come see the class in action!

Report Cards:

In order to recognize learning skills achievement, students in grades K-5 with all "I's" on their learning skills will receive a blue award sticker on their report card. Report cards will be distributed in November.

First Grade Team:

Mrs. Amy Fletcher

Amy_K_Fletcher@mcpsmd.org

Ms. Kim Walder

Kimberly_Walder@mcpsmd.org

Mrs. Tiffany Wagner

Tiffany_M_Wagner@mcpsmd.org

Mrs. Cathy Edmundson

Cathleen_L_Edmundson@mcpsmd.org

Mr. Mark Johnson

Mark_Johnson@mcpsmd.org

Mrs. Heather Miller

Heather_E_Miller@mcpsmd.org

Important Dates:

10/3/11: Interim Progress Reports and newsletters Come Home

10/4/11: PTA Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center

10/5/11: Walk Your Child to School Day

10/6/11: Study Circles Information Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center

10/10/11: Parent Visitation Day from 9:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon

10/13/11: Gibbs ES Math/Literacy Night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

10/15/11: PTA Fun Run at Gibbs ES beginning at 8:00 a.m.

10/19/11: Principal's Coffee from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Media Center; PTA Spirit Night at Baja Fresh

10/20/11: Study Circles Session 1 in the Media Center from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

10/21/11: No School

10/27/11: Individual Student Picture Day by Blanton Studios; Study Circles Session 2 in the Media Center from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

10/28/11: First Marking Period Ends; Halloween Classroom Parties from 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m., PTA Fall Harvest from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

10/31/11: No School for Students; Professional Day for Teachers for Report Card Preparation



Classrooms will be celebrating Halloween on Friday, Oct. 28th from 2:15-3:15. Costumes may be brought to school for the party. Alternative activities will be available upon request if you do not want your child to participate.