

Changes Ahead . . .

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Dear Parents,

Believe it or not we are already half way through our school year! We are learning so much and to keep pace with our challenging curriculum, we will be changing the homework routine. **Please note the changes in the routine on the reverse side of this paper.**

We will continue with the spelling routine that we started in the second quarter. Students' spelling folder should be kept in their First Grade Keeper. **Complete at least 3 activities over 2 weeks, keeping assignments in their folder until Spelling Test Friday.** Some of the activities are things that cannot be sent back to school such as: write your words with chalk on the sidewalk, or write your words with shaving cream. Please have your children record the activities that they have done and you can initial them. **The activities can be done at your own pace over the two weeks, but please return them on Spelling Test Friday.** Students' completion of the spelling activities will be figured into their homework grade.

Attached to this paper are two additional items that should be **kept in your child's First Grade Keeper.** One is a writing prompt booklet for Mondays and the other is a list of reading comprehension questions for both fiction and non-fiction texts for Wednesdays. Students should continue to read with an adult for at least 10 minutes every night.

We are also adding an additional night of math homework dedicated to basic facts. Students will receive a math worksheet to complete and study at home. The next day they will take a timed test of the same math facts.

Please also note that there is no more Make and Break homework and regular Math homework will now be sent home on Tuesday instead of Wednesday. Students may keep their Make and Break notebooks at home.

The new homework routine will begin Monday January 31. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us. Again, thank you for all your help and support.

Sincerely,

The First Grade Team

Second Semester Homework Routine

Monday: Writing Prompt and Spelling Activity

Every Monday students will complete their writing prompt on paper sent home in their homework folder. They may choose any prompt they want. A complete response should be at least 3-4 sentences long and should include a detailed picture. We will spend a lot of time this quarter working on improving organization of our writing. Please encourage children to use what they know about this writing trait (introductory or topic sentences, details and conclusions) in the writing they do at home.

Tuesday: Math Same as Semester 1 - an activity will be sent home.

Wednesday: Reading Response Similar to Monday, students will receive a piece of writing paper to do their response on. You may read to your child or they may read to you. Designate whether the book you read was fiction or non-fiction and choose a question to respond to in at least 3 sentences.

Thursday: Math facts review and any extra spelling activities. Don't forget to study for spelling test!

Friday: Have a great weekend!

Don't forget to do at least 3 spelling activities and study for your test!

Be sure to read at least 10-15 minutes every night!