

First Grade News

November and December, 2011

Dear Parents:

We look forward to seeing all of you during our November conferences. We are well on our way to 2012. Some activities that your child will be involved in these two months are listed below.

Reading:

We will continue our Reading Initiative program. We are reading stories and books aloud and silently. Children continue to make progress in reading. To help your child with comprehension, it is important for you to ask questions related to the stories. Some examples of questions would be:

- What is the main idea of the story?
- How do you know that?
- What was the problem in the story?
- How was the problem resolved?

Spelling

We are continuing our spelling program by exploring word wall words and chunks. Do not forget to look for your child's spelling list in their folders on every other Monday. Tests are given every other week. We have posted the spelling lists on our school webpage. You will find them at:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/wyngatees/classrooms/grade1/>

Writing:

We are practicing our handwriting skills. Journal writing remains an important part of our program on a weekly basis. We are continuing to work on writing sentences using correct punctuation and capitalization. For the 2nd quarter, we will

continue to work on personal narratives as well as writing to inform.

Math:

In Math, we will be working on graphing as well as continuing on place value. We will also be working on solving math word problems, using addition and subtraction. We will be looking at ways to solve missing addend problems as well as adding and subtracting more than 2 numbers. Please be sure to work on addition and subtraction facts with your child using the flashcards that were sent home. Be sure you are keeping up with the math logs for basic facts. This helps the children complete problem solving activities quickly and accurately at school. Websites are listed on the Wyngate web page mentioned previously:

<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/wyngatees/classrooms/grade1.shtml> .

Social Studies and Science:

Our next Science unit will be on magnets and motion of objects. Family traditions and ways cultures have changed in history will be our next Social Studies unit.

Special Dates and Events:

- **Thursday and Friday, Nov. 10th and 11th** -Half Day for students-Parent/Teacher conferences, 12:30 dismissal.
- Report cards will be sent home on **Thursday, November 10th**. Only the signed envelope needs to be returned, you keep the report card.
- Our Thanksgiving holiday begins on **Wednesday, November 23rd**, dismissal is at 12:30. We will come back to school in **Monday, November 28th**.

- The Winter holiday will begin on **Friday, December 23rd**.
School resumes on **Tuesday, January 3, 2012**.

The First Grade Team

Mrs. Fitzgerald

Ms. Laird

Mrs. Martin

Mrs. Miller

Ms. Puckett

Ms. Veith