



First Grade News October, 2011



Dear Parents:

We have successfully completed the first month of school! The students are settling into school routines nicely. Some activities that your child will be involved in this month are listed below.

Reading:

Initial reading assessments of the students have been completed and instructional groups have begun. We continue to do reading assessments as needed. Reading is taught daily from 9:10 to 10:40. We are reading stories and books aloud and silently. We are reading books on our Social Studies and Science Units on Civics and Living Things.

Writing:

We are practicing our handwriting often. We are also developing our writing skills in our journals. We are developing sentence writing skills with proper punctuation and capitalization. We are also working on **developing ideas and organization** for the 6 traits of writing that we are learning about this year.

Spelling:

We have begun our formalized spelling program during the reading block. We sent home a letter about the spelling program last week. A new spelling list will be sent home every two weeks. The letter and spelling lists are found on our website:

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

Math:

We have made September and October calendars. We will be working on addition and subtraction skills and solving story problems. We will continue to work on place value, reviewing the tens and ones place and introducing the hundreds place. The students will continue to learn strategies to complete addition and subtraction problems. The use of number lines, 100 charts, manipulatives, and other strategies will be introduced and practiced. Remember to have your child practice his/her basic addition and subtraction facts. Flashcards really help! Here is a website that students can use to practice those basic facts:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/oaklandes/mathunitwebsites/basicfacts.html>

Social Studies and Science:

We will continue on our Social Studies unit on Civics, with the students learning about leaders in our school, community and country. For Science, we will be continuing on Living Things. We will focus on basic needs of plants and animals, habitats, and how these living things get food.

Special Dates and Events:

Monday, October 10th: Open House, 9:30-11:00

Friday, October 14th: Mrs. Martin's class to Discovery Creek 9:30-11:15

Monday, October 17th: Mrs. Puckett's class to Discovery Creek 9:30-11:15

Wednesday, October 19th: Mrs. Miller's class to Discovery Creek 9:30-11:15

Friday, October 21st: No School, MSTA Conference

Monday, October 24th: Ms. Veith's class to Discovery Creek
9:30-11:15

Wednesday, October 26th: Ms. Laird's class to Discovery
Creek 9:30-11:15

Thursday, October 27th: Mrs. Fitz's class to Discovery Creek
9:30-11:15

Friday, October 28th: Halloween parties 1:30-2:45- Our
room parents will be making the arrangements for the parties.
You will be contacted as needed. Thanks for your continued
support.

The First Grade Team