



Mrs. Shea's 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
November News  
2017



Dear Families,

Welcome to another month in our 1<sup>st</sup> grade classroom. I would like to inform you of what is happening in our classroom as well as upcoming news this month. I am looking forward to seeing you at your child's conference.

**Important Dates**

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>- No school  
Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>- Book Fair  
visit (9-9:30am)  
Nov. 17<sup>st</sup>-22nd -  
Conferences  
Nov. 21st- Early  
Release  
Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>-  
Thanksgiving Break  
Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>- R.A.H.  
Celebration (return  
calendars)

**Our Learning Targets**

If you own a global positioning system (GPS), you probably can't imagine taking a trip without it. Unlike a printed map, a GPS provides up-to-the-minute information about where you are, the distance to your destination, how long until you get there, and exactly what to do when you make a wrong turn. But a GPS can't do any of that without a precise description of where you want to go.

Think of shared **learning targets** in the same way.

In our classroom we have a LEARNING TARGET board as well as Maps for Learning charts. These visuals convey to students the destination for the lesson or unit—what to learn, and exactly how to demonstrate their new learning.

**Reading Workshop**



We have been working on the comprehension strategy of retelling. This strategy provides an opportunity for readers to recall what is happening in the story they are reading. It allows a reader to stop and monitor their understanding.

Retelling a story is like putting together a puzzle. The reader must make sure that they have all of the pieces so that it makes a picture. This includes *characters, setting, problem, and the solution or the main ideas of the text*. When a reader retells a story to other people, they should be able to picture what the story is about in their head.

How can you help your child with this strategy at home?

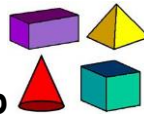
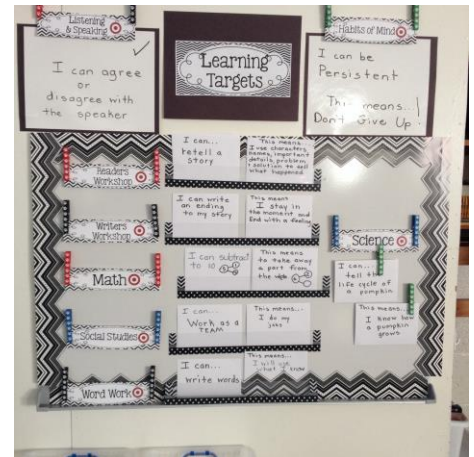
- When you are reading with your child, stop and have your child tell you what is happening in the story using the words: *first, next, then, after that, and finally*.
- Allow your child to become comfortable with the strategy of retelling by retelling events they are familiar with. This will also help your child focus on weeding out the **minor details** by centering their attention on **what's important**. Here are some ideas:
  - Tell me about the first time you lost a tooth.
  - Tell me about a time you went to a birthday party.



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## Making Words

## Our Learning Target Board



# Math Workshop

We will soon begin Chapter 5 Shapes and Patterns. I am sending home the Math in Focus School to Home Connections for both Chapter 4 and 5. We will be learning about plane and solid shapes. You can help your child identify these 2 and 3-dimensional shapes in familiar household objects.