



May News
Mrs. Shea's & Mrs. Morey's
1st Grade

May 2018

Dear Families,

Welcome to another month in our 1st grade classroom. I would like to inform you of what is happening in our classroom as well as upcoming news for this month.

Thank-you for listening to your child practice their reading every day. Giving your child lots of opportunities to read aloud will help them meet their reading goals and of course build their reading stamina. Our end of year Read to Self-goal is 30 minutes of reading. That's a huge increase in reading stamina from the beginning of the year and a very important step in their development as an independent reader.

Back in January I sent home reading tips so that you can help your child become a confident reader. Try a tip each week and see what works best for you and your child.

- Once is not enough

Please encourage your child to re-read their books, chapters, and poems. Re-reading helps them read fluently and accurately, deepens their understanding of story meaning, allows them to notice more visual information, and increases their sight vocabulary in a meaningful way.

- One more time with feeling

When your child has figured out an unfamiliar or tricky word, have him or her re-read that sentence. Often they are so busy figuring out a word they lose meaning of what they've just read. They have learned many accuracy strategies to try. You might ask when they stop reading, "What are you trying?" or "What else can you try?"

Please ask your child to share how they are the **Boss** of their reading and what tools they use to get the job done when their reading gets tricky.

Writing Workshop



We will soon begin writing book reviews in order to try and convince others to read our favorite books. I will share a variety of book reviews from the website <http://www.spaghettibookclub.org/> as a tool to help us learn about the pieces of a good book review.

IMPORTANT

How can you help at home?

- Ask your child to share one of their favorite books with you.
- Ask them to give you a brief summary that doesn't give away the ending.
- Ask your child to share their favorite part and tell you why.
- Ask them who they would recommend the book to and why.

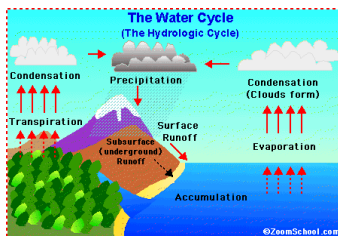
Math Worktime



We are sending home our School to Home Connections for the next two chapters. We will continue to practice adding and subtracting with regrouping. This is a very challenging skill and we are very proud of how they are all pushing themselves to learn how to regroup. If you would like to try playing some of our math games with your child, please let me know. We have some great games to play that help with regrouping and fact practice in a meaningful way.

Science

The Water Cycle



We have been learning about The Water Cycle and the journey water takes as it circulates from the land to the sky and back again. During our study, we read a variety of books that helped to explain the different stages of the water cycle, and told how evaporation, condensation, and precipitation are part of the water cycle. We also had a visit from Mrs. McCormack-LEAP-who shared a few experiments that demonstrated what actually happens in the water cycle!



Thanks again for all your support,
Brenda Shea & Alicia Morey

Dates to Remember:

Visit from Chris Van Dusen: May 2nd

Visit from LEAP: May 2nd, Mrs. McCormack-Poetry and visual images

Early release: May 9th

Spring Concert: May 10th-9:30 am & 1:00 pm

4th Kinderkonzert: May 30th

Botanical Gardens Field Trip: May 31st- we will contact chaperones the week of May 7th