First Grade News

The Heights Community School

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**Welcome Back:**

I hope you had a nice winter break and had time to spend with family and friends. This week we have been revising rituals and routines of the classroom, bus and school. Please talk to your child about classroom and school expectations.

Thank you for your support.

**Classroom News:**

We have a new critter joining our classroom. Be sure to ask your child what it is.

**Cold Weather:**

The cold weather is here! Please dress your child in winter clothing for playing outside. We will go outside everyday unless the wind chill is below 0. Your child needs a warm jacket, hat, mittens, boots and snow pants. If your child does not have boots or snow pants they will need to play on the sidewalk and will not be able to play in the snow. Please label your child’s outerwear.

**Reading:**

Next weeks book is Old Man’s Mitten. We will focus on:

* Finding the problem and solution.
* Identifying the setting character and plot.
* Identifying verbs and nouns.
* Making text to text connections.
* Retelling a story in order of events.

When your child reads to you each night have your child retell the story in order of events. This will help them with comprehension and thinking about what they are reading. If it is non-fiction, have him/her tell you 3 facts they’ve learned from the text.

**Phonics**

**Old Sounds:**

Th sh Y qu

**New Sounds:**

**a\_\_\_e – cake**

**ai – train**

**ay – tray**

**i\_\_\_e - bike**

**New Words:**

Make day other

Went away out

Why there

**Review Words:**

am see can the come here big like this

my what saw play are said go to not do up have little for

we on with that

she he by your

very going all from

no so be but

how where after

often make day went

pretty four jump

down good

Please continue to work on sight words with your child. You can help your child use sight words by developing sentences with a capital letter at the beginning of the sentence and punctuation at the end of the sentence.

**Writing:**

We are starting our Question and Answer Unit. Students will be focusing on:

* Exploring different kinds of nonfiction books.
* Thinking about nonfiction text features – headings, labels, table of contents...
* Choosing a topic of interest.
* Writing several question and answer books.

You can help your child with this unit by helping them think about things they already are an “expert” on. First graders usually know a lot about different kinds of animals.

They will continue to work on:

* Leaving spaces between words.
* Including punctuation (periods, commas).
* Using lower case and upper case

letters appropriately.

* Stretching out familiar words.
* Using word chunks.
* Using the word wall.

**Math:**

We are working on Unit 4.

* Reading numbers to 120.
* Writing numbers to 120.
* Representing numbers to 120 in different ways.

Continue to work on counting by 2’s starting at any even number, 5’s starting at numbers ending in 0 or 5, and 10’s starting at any number.

Also, practice addition and subtraction facts daily. It is a first grade standard to know facts automatically.

**Upcoming Events:**

**January:**

1/9: Movie night at the Plaza

6:00

1/11: Open House for New Parents

10:00-11

1/12: PTA Meeting – 5:00-7:00

1/16: NO SCHOOL

1/20: Chuck E. Cheese – 3:00-9:00

1/25: C.A.R.E.S Program

9:30 K-2

Multicultural Night – 5:30

1/27: NO SCHOOL

**February:**

2/10: Saints North Roller Skating

5:15-7:15

2/13: African American Parent Involvement

Day

Movie night at the Plaza

6:00

2/20: NO SCHOOL

2/22: Chat with the Principal – 8:45

C.A.R.E.S Program – 2:00

2/23: I Love to Read Family Night

5:30-7