



First Grade News

Mrs. Murray

Roosevelt Elementary October 2010

Dear Parents and Families,
Congratulations! We have all made it thorough the first month of first grade. I must say we have a wonderful class that is developing into a close and caring "classroom family". I have witnessed students helping each other out and empathizing with one another as they try to handle difficult situations. It is so inspiring to see your children, that are all very unique in their own way with a wide range of learning styles, personalities, and academic levels work together as they all become more confident with our classroom/school routine and expectations. I understand there may have been some apprehensions about school at home, especially during this transitional period from Kindergarten to First grade, but I promise they will and are adjusting. A few things to remember include:

- Make sure your child is getting enough rest.
- Support your child with reading daily and sign and return pink read and respond slips weekly.
- Review daily/weekly schedule with your child-how they are getting to and from school-if they have soccer, dentist appointment, etc.
- Supply a healthy breakfast! Students are struggling with paying attention and focusing for longer periods of time in first grade, and they need fuel to do this.
- Encourage and praise your child for all of their hard work and accomplishments in first grade!

I enjoyed meeting with parents for Curriculum night. If you didn't make it I hope you looked through the information packet I sent home in the Monday red folders.

REMINDER-If You have not sent in your emergency food baggie, please do as soon as possible.



Happy Birthday this month to Maya and Awestin!



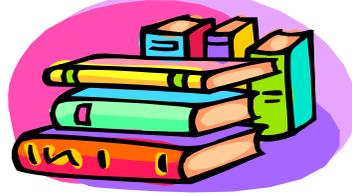
Snacks

Thank you for all your snack donations; they are always very much appreciated! I like to give students a daily snack to give them a little boost in

their energy throughout the day. Crackers, pretzels, or other **low-sugar** snacks work great! NO PEANUT products please!

Volunteers

It is great having parent volunteers in the classroom. Your support is invaluable. I'm so excited to have 9 volunteers already! If you have signed up, you received a volunteer schedule from me. Please remember to let me know if you can't make your scheduled time for the week so I can plan ahead. If you have not signed up yet but would like to, please call and let me know when you would like to come in.



READING

We are well into our SFA reading program. If your child is feeling stressed out about their reading class don't despair, it will get better! There is quite a lot to absorb the first month or so of first grade, and it takes time for students to adjust to all the expectations. Please remember to ask your child about their reading folder with their reading books and homework slips daily. And give lots of encouragement for your child to do their best.

See the Scholastic book order attached if you are interested in ordering low-cost quality books for your child at home. Orders are due by Monday, Oct. 11th. Please make checks out to *Scholastic* and return your order in an envelope with your child's name on it.

SCIENCE

We will be starting our first science unit; *Pebbles, Sand and Silt* October 6th with Ms. Woods. Expect lots of talk at home about rocks and our experiments with the different types and sizes.

WRITING

We will begin putting sentences together with the help of our 'Sentence bug', answering the questions of "who" and "did what". Writing in our journals is also planned.



KELSO'S CHOICES

I have begun sharing Kelso's stories about big and little problems. We encourage children to try at least two of Kelso's choices before going to an adult. Of course some problems start off big and require an adult right away such as an injury, strangers, or weapons. This is a good opportunity to discuss with your child about choices they may have tried.

Homework

Homework comes home today in the red Monday folders to be turned in on Fridays. I am very pleased with the effort families are making on the math homework! This is great practice for your child and your family to get in the habit of making time for supporting schoolwork at home.

Spelling

Our first spelling word list is coming home this week in our red folders as well. Please review these words with your child for the spelling check on Friday.

Dates to Remember

Monday	10-4	Homework & Spelling & Volunteers Begin
Wednesday	10-6	1 hour late start
Friday	10-8	School Pictures/Spell Check unit #7
Saturday	10-9	PTA Harvest Festival
Monday	10-11	Scholastic Book Orders due
Mon.-Fri.	10-11/15	Fall Conferences/Early Release 12:52
Thursday	10-21	Spell Check unit #8
Friday	10-22	Teacher In-Service/No School
Tuesday	10-26	First Passport check
Friday	10-29	Spell Check unit #9
Wednesday	11-3	1 hour late start
Friday	11-5	Spell Check unit #10
Thursday	11-11	Veteran's Day/No school
Friday	11-12	Spell Check unit #11
Friday	11-19	Spell Check Unit #12
Wednesday	11-24	Early Release 12:52
Thurs.-Fri.	11-25/26	Thanksgiving Break/ No School
Wednesday	12-1	1 hour late start
Friday	12-3	Spell Check Unit #13/Report Cards Home
Friday	12-10	Spell Check Unit #14
Mon. /Fri.	12-20/12-31	Winter Break/No School

Thank you parents for all your support in first grade. It has been a pleasure getting to know your children and watching them grow into such special people. Every day just gets better and better as we learn about each other! Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns. I check my voicemail daily, and will return your call as soon as possible! I look forward to meeting with you and your child during conference week.

Sincerely,

Jan Murray
596-6772



