

# FIRST GRADE NEWS - NOVEMBER

## TARDIES

First grade teachers start instruction at 8:30. When students come in late, they miss important instruction. It also interrupts instruction for all the other students. So, please have your children come to school on time.



## Reading/Language Arts

The first quarter is completed, and we have completed Units 1 & 2 in reading. Most of the students passed both unit tests and are doing well in Unit 3. The important phonetic skills in this book include decoding words with the CVC pattern (ex. hug), especially short "e" and "u" words. We are also decoding words with beginning "r" and "l" blends (ex. tray and play) and ending consonant blends "st" and "nd" (ex. fast and hand). Comprehension skills that will be tested are recalling and retelling of important information from a story, classifying of information, making predictions, using pictures, text, or prior knowledge to draw

conclusions. In writing, the students are beginning to write simple paragraphs focused on one topic. The emphasis in handwriting is neatness, correct letter formation and letter size, and proper spacing.



## Math

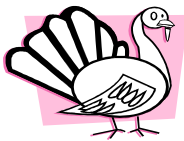
The students are continuing to practice their addition and subtraction facts. The students need to know their basic addition facts (sums to 12 or less) and the corresponding subtraction facts (SOL 1.8). The students will begin telling time to the nearest hour and half hour using an analog and digital clock (SOL 1.11). In geometry, they need to identify and describe objects in their environment that depict plane geometric figures (triangle, rectangle, square, and circle). "The door looks like a rectangle." (SOL 1.17). The students should be able to draw triangles, squares, rectangles, and circles and describe shapes by the number of sides, corners, and square corners. (Ex. A square has 4 sides, 4 square

corners. A triangle has 3 sides and 3 corners.) (SOL 1.16).



### Science

We are learning how animals adapt to the change in weather; in particular the cold winter season. The students are learning that some animals migrate or travel to places where the weather is warmer or where they can find food. Some animals will hibernate or fall into a deep sleep; while other animals will adapt to the cold weather by growing more fur or fat. (SOL 1.5, 1.7)



### Social Studies

Happy Thanksgiving! The holidays are almost here! In Social Studies, we will be learning about the Pilgrims and Native Americans as well as contrasting their lives to our lives today. We will read, write, and have discussions about the significance of Thanksgiving. (SOL 1.1, 1.12) The students are also studying map skills using basic map symbols and cardinal directions. They are constructing simple maps using a basic map key. (SOL 1.4, 1.5)



### Holidays Around the World

In December, we will be integrating language arts, math, social studies and science skills into learning about various holiday and winter customs around the world. More details will be sent home later.



### Holiday Concert

The first grade students will be performing a holiday concert. They will be singing songs from around the world that celebrate the holiday season. This performance is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9 at 1:00. Mark your calendars for this special day.

### Dates to Remember

Nov. 23 - 27 - No School - Thanksgiving Break

Monday, Nov. 30 - Nov. Book It due.

Wednesday, Dec. 9 - 1<sup>st</sup> grade concert at 1:00 in the gym