Fabulous First Grade

What a great school of O”fish”al First graders we have this year!

Its going to be a great year!!!

This first week has been amazing. I am so very thankful this year for all my guppies. I will send you reminder notes in email throughout the year, and I will send you the newsletters as well. If you feel like you are not receiving the information, please call or email me and let me know. Or visit the weebly site and all the information and newsletters will be on this site as well. <http://tinawhiting.weebly.com/>

Ms. Julia is in our classroom Tues. and Thurs., to help out while she gets college credits. She is amazing. What a kind heart she has for our children.

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| ***What does my child need each day for school?:***  ***(please put your child’s name on all items)***   * A smile * Folder * Water bottle * Snack * Writing folder to leave at school * Gym shoes to leave at school for PE * Earbuds or head phones to leave at school for computer class * Pencil box * No Toys, technology or trinkets from home (**EVER**) * No gum or candy (**EVER**) |

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| ***Upcoming Events:***  Wildcat Walk about: Is Sept. 20th  The Wildcat Walk-About is a free event being held Friday, September 20th from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Montague Athletic Complex. Families will enjoy visiting area organizations, inflatables, live music, games, face painting, give-aways, raffles, and cotton candy! Each adult will receive a Wildcat Walk-About ticket when they arrive. When each adult visits ten different organizations, they will receive free admission to the Varsity football game. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to visit, learn, and enjoy what our community has to offer. We hope to see you there!  All About ME Posters: Next week posters are due. See your folders for your date. If you are not sure, email me for your date. This is on the report card as a scored presentation. Please help your child design their poster. Ask your child what they want to add to tell people about what makes your child happy! Practice voice so the audience can hear their presentation and pointing to the information on the poster! Make it fun! I can’t wait to see posters next week!  **How you can help at home:** Help your child create a poster and send it to school as soon as it is finished or by your child’s due date. |
| ***This First Week in First***  Wow, this week went fast! I have been so impresses with our class. They have done an amazing job returning to school. So much endurance, kindness, perseverance and work ethic in this classroom. They have really made this week a great experience for the class.  ***Our School Wide Goal: To Be Safe, Respectful and Responsible***  They have definitely met that goal this week.  ***Our Classroom Goal: To be the Best “ME” I Can be!***  We recognize we all learn differently. We are all working on our own individual personal academic and behavior goals. We are focused on worrying about our own behavior and focusing on kindness to others. We are here to be the best me we can be and help others if they need us. We only say kind words to others. We do not put our hands on other people. We do not tattle on others. We take care of ourselves.  \*Please remember when your child brings academic items home that you praise your child’s efforts, set a goal and work on what your child needs. Ask our child what their goal is in math, in reading, in writing and help your child achieve this goal. Make learning fun and positive. If you feel frustration or see frustration in your child,… Stop take a break, go for a walk, have a snack, play a game and then return to work.  “I can’t” is not an option in here. We just TRY our best and that is always good enough. We say, “I can & I will just watch me!”  Remember it is okay to make mistakes. It is the only way our brain can learn. We need experiences to help our brain grow and mature to its full capacity. Sometimes school is hard, sometimes it is easy. But it is our job. Nothing wonderful in this world comes easy. It all takes hard work and perseverance.  \*\* Please remember when your child complains about a problem at school, ask your child these questions:  What is the rule for that at school?  **Example:** If your child comes home and says \_\_\_\_\_\_ won’t play with me. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is not nice to me!  Our first reaction is why would someone be mean to my child. We can’t help it. We love our kids unconditionally. But… remember we “all” have our moments, even your child. Sometimes we are selfish and our perspective is very one sided.  Take a breath, smile… and acknowledge your child is upset. “I see that made you sad/mad/worried. What is the rule at school when someone does something you do not like?”   1. **We ask that person to please stop.** (sometime we don’t realize that we hurt someone’s feelings or made someone mad.) 2. **If that person does not stop move away!** We are learning life lessons. We have to learn to walk away from issues that upsets us and cannot be stopped when we ask an individual to stop.   (My students can sit anywhere in the room they want to as long as they are kind to other’s) This gives students a chance to bond with other friends, create new friendships, move if they need to move.   1. **If that person follows you and continues the behavior, then go get an adult.** The first question we are going to ask your child is what happened. We are looking to see if your child tried to handle the situation appropriately. If not, we guide your child to problem solve. We cannot be with your child every second of every day. Your child has to learn to problem solve to find independence and happiness. If your child problem solves the situation and it doesn’t stop, then the adult will handle the issues. |
| ***Our Daily Schedule:***  8:38 Breakfast, jobs and settling in time  8:40 Morning meeting and SEL  9:00 Reading time and stations  11:10-11:55 Recess and lunch (wed. 10:45-11:30)  12:00-1:00 Story & Writing Time & (Library Mon. 11:55) with science and social studies  1;15-2:05 Specials art, computers, PE, PBL, Music  2:15-3:15 Math  3:30-3:45 Recess (wed. 2:25-2:40)  3:53 Dismissal (wed. 2:53)   * If you would like to volunteer, stop in the office and pick up a volunteer background check form. You will need your drivers’ license. I would love to have you come in a work at a reading group, writing group and/or math station with the students to help facilitate their learning. You will be amazed at what we learn in first grade and how much you can help us learn. |
| ***What are we learning in reading?***   * Rhyming and looking for chunks in words * Blending sounds to make words, read and write words * Segmenting sounds to read and write words * Reading sight words * Looking for words within words * Moving sounds around to create new words * Practicing spelling words * Reading stories each day * Practicing take home books * Comprehension |
| ***What are we learning in Writing?***   * Thinking about a true story to tell an audience (Narrative) * Drawing an illustration to match or story * Labeling our illustration * Writing words to match our illustration * We are word detectives * Adding details to our stories * Forming all letters correctly using only lower case unless upper is needed * Remembering spaces and punctuation * Creating a new sentence to tell more about or story * Reading our story to an audience |
| ***What are we learning in Math?***   * We are problem solvers and critical thinkers * We are looking for patterns (all math problems have a pattern) * We know many ways to create a number just ask us   (We must be fluent from 0-10 with addition and subtraction in first grade)  (We must be able to solve both addition and subtraction 0-20)   * We can count forward and back within 0-120 by 1’s, 2’s, 5’s and 10’s * We can write our numbers to 120 without reversals * We can graph any problem and interpret our data * We can represent a number 0-20 with tens frame, tallies, cubes, sticks, coins, base ten blocks and numerals * We know all 2D and 3D shapes and attributes and can reason with shapes * We can estimate and find probability * We can measure using standard and nonstandard measurement |
| ***What are we learning in science and social studies?***   * What makes us alike and different * How are we the same and different for others * We are we from, where do we live * What our families look like and like to do * What are our needs * Space Systems- Pattern’s and Cycles |
| ***What are we learning about friendship?***   * Be Kind * No one likes grumpy (Mrs. Whiting’s favorite saying) * We can make more than one friend * We can help others if they need us * We don’t have to know someone to help them or ask them to play with us * We should try to meet a new friend each day * We should try to sit by a new friend each day * We should look for someone that doesn’t have a friend * We should play with people who are nice to us * We should know the name of everyone in our class |

Have a wonderful September! This is going to be a great year! Please contact me before or after school if you have questions or concerns. I am always here for you. We are starting pre assessment & please understand these are pre assessments. These are exit outcomes for first. We are learning. Help us to be happy, successful and praise all our efforts because we really do want to make all the adults in our life happy. We are doing our best. Mrs. Whiting