

1st Grade Newsletter #11

February 7, 2020

Language Arts

We are working on our *spelling routines* with “Chunk spelling” and Dolch Sight Vocabulary. The kids enjoy the chunk spelling activity and always look forward to it. In grammar, we talked about pronouns. We love pronouns because they replace nouns in our sentences and make our lives easier and fun! We played memory games and worked with partners. In addition, we got started with tenses, we discussed the meaning of time (past, present and future) and how we change verbs according to the pronoun/subject (E.g., I like, he likes). In terms of *reading*, we wrapped up learning about *Cause & Effect* by reading the book ‘What should Danny do?’ where the kids could decide the ending of the story. In addition, kids became teachers and taught their friends what “cause and effect” means. Finally, we started our new writing project: A *Friendly Letter*! Please help your child decide whom they want to write to and provide them the address too.

Math

Plane shapes and solid shapes. No matter how many sides, corners or faces they have, we just adore them all! After learning about plane shapes (square, triangle, rectangle, circle, pentagon, hexagon, octagon etc.), we moved on to discovering the basic *Solid Shapes* (sphere, cube, rectangular prism, cylinder, and cone). You can challenge your kid at home to give the names and etymology of the shapes. We started our project “What does the shape say?” and we will be adding new shapes every week. You can visit our class and have a look. First graders are proud of their work! Next week we will hit 100 days in school and we will celebrate with a fun, math activity; surprise!

Social Studies

In Social Studies, the Ancient Egypt madness continued over the past 2 weeks with the 1st Graders *mummifying some apples*! As the real scientists that we are, we always observe and note our findings. In the future weeks, we will

explore what will happen to a piece of apple covered in a mixture of salt and baking soda (trying to simulate the natron that Ancient Egyptians used in the mummification procedure)! Finally, our trip to the National museum for the King Tut exhibition was a huge success. Big screens, headphones and the history unravelling in front of our eyes. Breathtaking!

So you think it was over...!

- *Sarcophagus SS project*: Choose an Egyptian Pharaoh to research and help your child find and write down 5 interesting facts about him/her. For safer navigation on the internet, you can use this kid friendly search engine: <http://bit.ly/2nDPCOv>. Then, help your little historian create a sarcophagus with simple materials you can find at home. Have fun learning more about Ancient Egypt!
- *1st graders are learning about the parts of a letter and we will soon mail our own letter to a friend*. Please help your kid pick someone, write down his/her address and slip it into the homework folder.

Coming up!

- February 6th- 13th : Post office week
- February 12th : 100th day of school
- February 14th : Portfolio check
- February 17th- 21st : Winter break



Kind regards,

Mr. Harris and Ms. Maria