

1-DG Update

January 26, 2024

Reminders:

January 26: Report Cards available - Check PowerSchool!

January 31: First Grade Parent meeting at 6:00p.m.

February 12: Please bring valentines into school

February 14: Valentine Exchange

February 16: CAS program: *Lisa the Wise* shadow puppet show

February 19-23: February vacation week

March 27, April 2 and 3: Spring conferences

Highlights of our week

-This week we focused on blends that contain the letter "l." We built words such as black, clock, flag, glue, sleep and play. Just to clarify, a digraph has two consonants that make one sound (ch, th, sh, wh, ph). You no longer hear each consonant's individual sound, but rather a new sound. We mark digraphs with a single line under the digraph (e.g. mathh). A blend is also made of two consonants that "blend" together, but you still hear each sound. Blends can be found in the beginning or end of a word and we mark them with two individual lines under the two consonants (e.g. s lide, we s t, etc.).

-We went on a word hunt around the classroom looking for words with "l" blends.

-We learned the poem "Slippery Hill."

-During our *Foundations* lessons, we practiced r-controlled vowels (ar/car, or/horn, er/her, ir/bird, ur/burn). Our new trick words are: her, over and number. We practiced spelling and marking words with basewords that include blends and digraph blends followed by a suffix s.

-In reading workshop we finished up our unit on reading informational books! We practiced reading using a teaching voice. We read the book Meet the Bee (a book without headings) and practiced reading each page to figure out the main idea to then write our own headings for each section. The first graders have learned so much and love reading informational books!

-In writing workshop I taught the students how to write a friendly letter. Each first grader has a list of people at Sprague School who they would like to write letters to through our WEE Deliver mail system. The first graders worked hard on their letters and they are very excited at the prospect of receiving mail!

-In math we learned about fractions and halves. The students made imaginary half-and-half pizzas. Then they learned about $\frac{1}{4}$ and learned how to make four equal parts of circles, squares and rectangles. They played *BUMP with 3 Dice*, solved more comparison problems and continued telling time to the hour and half hour.

-In science we experimented with different materials (fork chime, paper cup and string, popsicle stick and rubber bands on a plastic container) to learn more about sound and vibration. We are working on small books called I Hear a Sound. What Vibrates?.

- On Wednesday morning the first graders attended an all-school assembly focusing on community and respect. If we walk quietly and respectfully in the hallways, we get entered in a drawing where we can earn a chance at 10 minutes of extra recess!
- Our *Second Step* SEL lesson focused on feeling frustrated and what to do to get calm when you feel frustrated (slow breathing, slow counting or ask for help).
- We had a special birthday guest reader on Friday morning. Lyric Liu read The Book with No Pictures, by B.J. Novak. Thank you!

Note:

We will have a Valentine Card Exchange on Wednesday, February 14! If your child would like to give cards to his or her classmates, please address them at home (have your child write the names independently for practice) and bring them in on Monday, February 12 (this gives us time to distribute them before the actual day). A list of names is attached to this week's homework packet. To prevent hurt feelings, please bring a valentine for each student. Please do not attach chocolate or candy to the valentines.

-Dara Gaul