

1-DG Update

September 29, 2023

Reminders:

October 2-6: Book Fair

October 9: No School - Indigenous Peoples Day

October 19: School Picture Day

October 25, November 1 and 2 (half day Thursday): Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 10: No School - Veteran's Day

November 23-27: Thanksgiving Break

Highlights of our week

- This week we focused on the -an chunk. We built words such as **animal, hand, fantastic, and plan.**
- We learned the poem "A Happy Clan."
- In *Foundations* we continued working on tapping out the sounds of CVC words (consonant - vowel - consonant, e.g. mad, bug, sit, etc.). This week's lessons also focused on writing sentences I dictated aloud to the students. We worked on putting an uppercase letter at the beginning of each sentence, a period at the end, circling "trick" words (the, of, and, a, is, his), and tapping out sounds to spell and then again to proofread.
- In reading workshop we learned that good readers read more and more and they are always setting goals for themselves. The first graders learned how to make tally marks to keep track of the number of books read during reading workshop. Each child brought home his or her Expert Book to read to you this weekend and a book they have never read before. Please return all books on Monday. Thank you!
- The first graders enjoy working on the *Lalilo* program when they finish their reading workshop jobs. They can access *Lalilo* at home using the Clever Badge taped on the inside of your child's Home/School folder. They can also access *Dreambox* using the Clever Badge.
- In writing workshop we read the book The Hello, Goodbye Window, by Norton Juster as an example of a personal narrative story with lots of details and a clear beginning, middle and end. Thank you for sending in the My Topics page for homework. The first graders will start writing their own personal narratives next week.
- In math we completed *Quick Images* with dot cards; played the games *Roll and Record* and *Find It!*; solved many story problems; and took assessments to see how the first graders skills are developing as they show their math thinking while solving problems.
- In social studies we focused on cardinal directions and the compass rose. Your child may want to find north, south, east and west in your house. If available, I recommend using the compass feature on a smart phone to explore these directions with your child. Each first grader decorated a compass rose.
- During our SEL time, we completed the first lesson in the Second Step program. Please read the information attached to my email to learn more about the program. This week's lesson focused on paying attention. The students learned that paying attention can look different

depending on the situation, for example, listening to the teacher during a lesson, or looking both ways before crossing the street. At home, you can ask your child to show you how they can pay attention, for example, when you are reading a story with them, explaining a task, or crossing the street.

-On Wednesday morning, Vahideh Nilforoshan came in to teach the class about wearing a hijab. She read the book Under My Hijab, by Hena Khan and answered questions. Thank you!

-On Friday morning, the Carley family came in as special birthday guest readers. They read the book Maya and the Beast, by Maya Gabeira. Thank you!

-Dara Gaul