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January 9 – January 13

First Grade Parents,

Welcome to the second half of first grade! I have expressed to the class how my expectations of them have increased. I expect better, more mature classroom behavior. I also expect the children to be working more independently. It is okay to struggle!! They will work their way through it!

This week we have a Bible verse and a spelling test. Both came home in your child’s Home and School folder today. There is something different about spelling…

Your child received a Spelling Tic-Tac-Toe page. On this page, there are nine activities. Your child must choose three activities that will make a tic-tac-toe (3 in a row horizontally, vertically, or diagonally). They must complete those three activities and turn in anything that can be turned in by THURSDAY. Please staple or paper clip the work to the orange assignment paper. (You will find that some activities are things that cannot be turned in. Those spaces need initialed, so that I know they were completed.) That equals one activity per evening if you want to spread it out. If your child wishes to, the work may be completed faster and turned in early.

In math we have been learning about breaking numbers in to “our friend 10”. Some of the children can add numbers very easily in their heads and might not like this method of adding and subtracting because it seems like a silly extra step. This skill is very important for mental math that will come up later this year and in future grades, though. Please stick with the exercises that come home even though your child might favor another way of doing them.

Last week we began Fluency Drills. For this, we are using Fluency Books based on sight and high-frequency words. We are testing the kids “cold” on these lists of words each Friday. If no practice list came home with your child, he/she passed the level tested. If a list came home, that means your child needs to practice that list for re-testing. Please practice those lists every night. The re-test date is written on the list.

Other items:

* Please remember to sign and return report card envelopes as soon as possible.
* I want to send out a HUGE thank you for my class Christmas present. I was given a gift from the entire class out of the class funds and let me just say that Mrs. Liszewski did you all proud! She created a spa package with incredible lotions, treatments, slippers, and a salon certificate. I was floored! It was so amazing!! Thank you!
* Thank you, also, for the individual gifts. Thank you cards will be in this week’s Friday Folders. I am truly humbled by your kindness, thoughtfulness, and generosity. I do this work because I love it. I am blessed!!
* We have a three-day weekend ahead of us (What?!) Enjoy the extra day with your family. We are all created beautifully and equally in God’s holy likeness!

Thank you to the Arce Family for providing snacks this week. Thank you to the Dominguez Family for providing snacks for next week.

 May God Bless You,

 Mrs. Stevason