



NEW HORIZONS
SCHOOL

Classroom News

September 2024

First Grade

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to an exciting new school year in First grade! We're thrilled to have you with us as we embark on a journey full of exploration and discovery. This year, we'll dive into new subjects, make new friends, and go on countless adventures together. Each day will be packed with fun activities, creative projects, and opportunities for both academic and personal growth. Be curious, ask questions, and savor every moment of this amazing year. Here's to a fantastic start and a year brimming with learning, laughter, and growth!

What are we learning this month?

Phonics

We'll start our journey with lessons focusing on beginning consonants, where students will learn to identify and use the initial sounds in words. As we progress, we'll explore ending and middle sounds to help them understand how different letters can change the sound and meaning of words. Next, we'll delve into words that follow the one-vowel rule, where we'll practice spelling and recognizing patterns involving a single vowel. Following that, we'll introduce the two-vowel rule, helping students grasp how combinations of vowels work together in words. Each of these lessons is designed to build and reinforce spelling skills, ensuring students gain confidence and proficiency in their reading and writing abilities.

Language Arts

This year, we will explore four distinct types of sentences:

- declarative
- imperative
- interrogative
- exclamatory

Understanding these different sentence forms will enhance students' ability to communicate effectively and express themselves clearly.

Encourage your child to come up with their own examples of each sentence type to practice and reinforce their understanding. This exercise will not only help them practise the different sentence forms but also enhance their overall communication skills.

Book Reading

We will kick off the year by immersing ourselves in a variety of captivating folk tales, fairy tales, and fables. These timeless stories not only provide enjoyable reading experiences but also offer valuable life lessons and moral insights. Through these narratives, students will have the opportunity to practice essential reading skills such as comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary development.

We'll read the classic tale of "The Three Little Pigs" in the class. Here students will learn about the importance of perseverance and hard work. By discussing the different choices made by the characters and their consequences, students will gain a deeper understanding of how effort and determination can lead to success.

Math

This month, we'll continue to build a strong foundation in mathematics by reviewing how to count by 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s, and 100s. Mastering these counting patterns will help students understand number sequences and enhance their overall number sense.

In addition, we'll dive into several key areas such as Graphing, Even and Odd Numbers and Telling Time.

Encourage your child to use their new math vocabulary and concepts at home. Whether they are counting objects, discussing graphs, or telling time, applying these skills in everyday situations will reinforce their learning and build confidence.

Spanish

Students will have fun playing interactive games that reinforce their learning. They'll practice saying the alphabet aloud, along with numbers and colors, making these fundamental concepts engaging and memorable. These activities are designed to help children build confidence and fluency in recognizing and using letters, numbers, and colors while having a great time.

Science

We'll begin our exploration by learning about living things, with a special focus on the parts of plants. This foundational knowledge will help students grasp how plants grow, develop, and thrive in their environments. By understanding the functions of different plant parts, such as roots, stems, leaves, and flowers, students will gain insights into how plants obtain nutrients, reproduce, and adapt to their surroundings. This will provide a solid basis for exploring more complex topics in life science and encourage a deeper appreciation for the natural world.

Speech

In our speech activities this month, we'll focus on developing public speaking skills. We will concentrate on the poem "Everybody Has a Name," where students will learn to present it with confidence and clarity. Through this practice, they'll work on articulating their words clearly, using appropriate volume and expression, and engaging their audience. This exercise will help them build essential public speaking skills and boost their self-assurance in front of others.

Computer Lab

We're excited to introduce computer science programming to our elementary students this month! They will start learning Terrapin Logo programming, which is designed to build strong logic and analytical thinking skills.

Our focus will be on mastering basic commands such as FD (forward), RT (right turn), LT (left turn), BK (backward), CS (clear screen), PU (pen up), and PD (pen down). These fundamental commands will help students understand how to create and control shapes and patterns through programming, fostering their problem-solving abilities and sparking their interest in technology.





Friday Folders

Please remember to check the Friday packets sent home and return it back on Monday.

School is closed on
Monday September 2nd
for Labor Day