

November 30, 2016



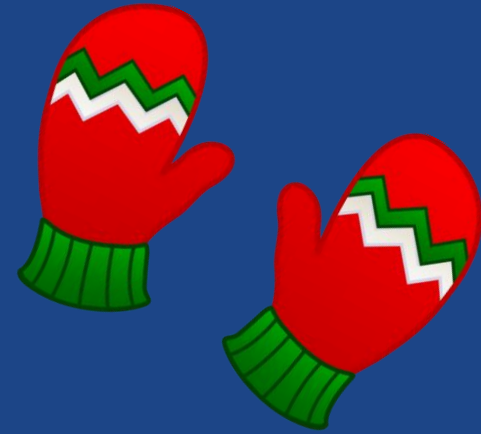
From the desks of Mrs. Shober & Mrs. Kries

- Dates to remember:
 - **Other important dates:**
 - December 7th- 1st trimester ends.
 - December 14th- Report cards released through Genesis.
 - December 16th- Holidays Around the World for **Preschool**.
 - December 20th and 21st- Holiday parties. Please look for more information from your child's classroom teacher soon.
 - December 22- Single Session Day
 - December 23-January 2nd- School Closed. Enjoy your holiday break!

Holiday Happiness, which is sponsored by the PTO, will run from December 5th to December 16th. A box will be located in the hallway outside of the library for contributions. Please make sure to have all donations in before the 16th. Thanks for donating!



Welcome Winter!



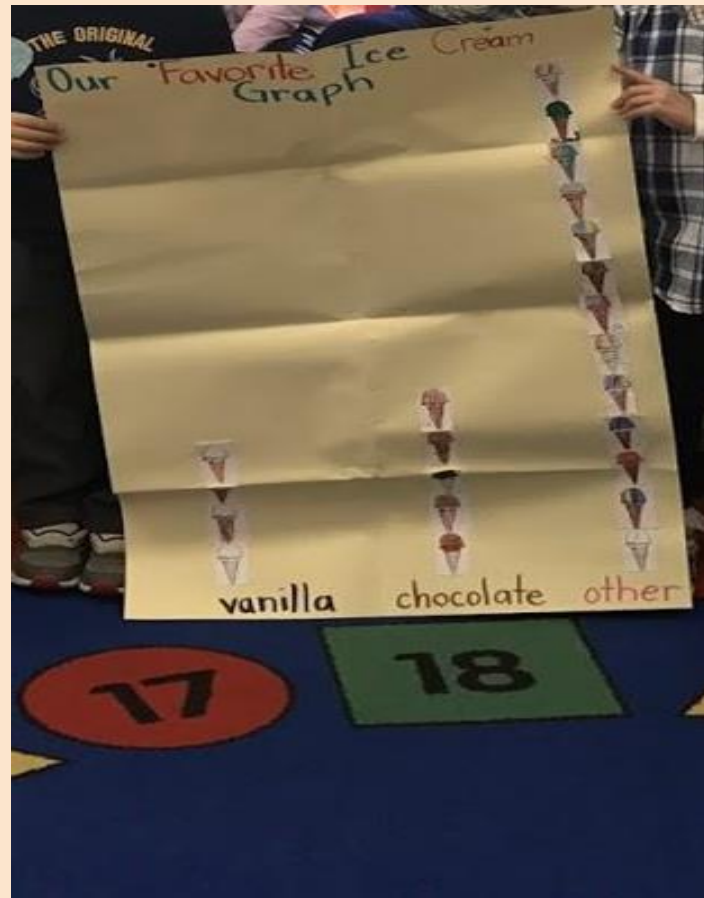
Winter is approaching quickly.

- Please make sure to send your children with cold weather gear to school each day. Winter coats, hats and gloves may be needed for the walk in from the bus and recess each day.



Election Day

In Mrs. Bitner's Kindergarten, we learned about voting and ballots. The children voted for their favorite ice cream flavor and we tallied, then graphed the results. We had a clear winner folks....rainbow ice cream!



4H Makes our Plates Great!

- A representative from 4H came to teach Kindergarteners about nutrition. We learned about the 5 food groups and sorted foods into **Go**, **Slow**, and **Whoa!** We should try to eat 5 **fruits/vegetables** per day and we shouldn't eat **Whoa** foods too often! We are thankful for the 4H program for sure!



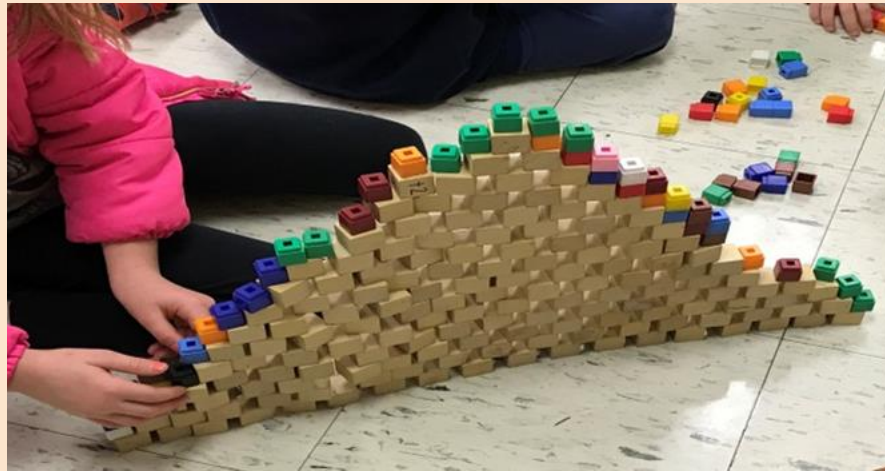
Rhyming is fun!



Students used their understanding of rhymes to help them complete Thanksgiving riddles. The children knew that the answer to the riddle needed to make sense and rhyme with a word from the riddle. We love riddles!

Hooray for Play in K!

- So much learning happens during playtime and it's not just 1 on 1 with the teacher. See students below making a train of cubes. They counted and it was 100 cubes! 1 student added 5 more and it was now 105!



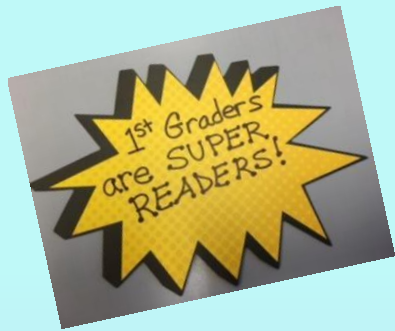
First Graders are SUPER Readers!

By Mrs. Fitzgibbon's Class

First graders have been busy learning about reading tools they can use when they get to tricky words. Just like a construction worker uses tools to help make their job easier, readers have tools they use, too! We have learned that there are many different reading tools (strategies) that can help us. Part of the reading process is to try using different tools until we figure out the tricky word. Just like you would never use a screw driver to cut wood, readers have to be flexible and ready to try different tools. One tool won't work in every situation! First graders are proud to show off their use of tools that are helping them to become...

SUPER READERS!!

Check out some of the tools we've been using on the next page!



READING STRATEGIES

First graders can use when they get to a tricky word:

- Study the picture and think what the word can be
- Think : “is that how it sounds in a book?”
- Think about what the character might be saying
- Check the first and last letter
- Stretch the word out bit by bit
- Look for a part of a word you know
- Cover and slide
- Check the word bit-by-bit



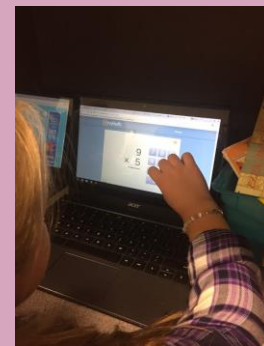
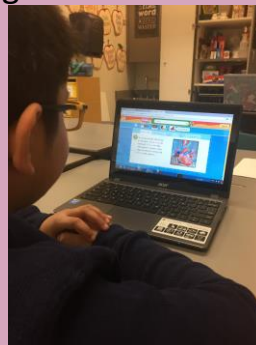
The students in Mrs. Cole's class are enjoying using our technology! Every second grader has their own chromebook in their classroom. We are using them during math workshop, reading workshop, and writing workshop. They are so much fun to use!

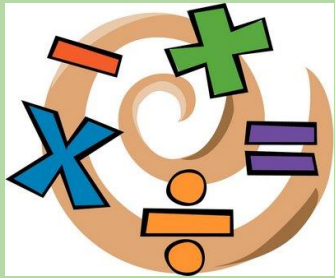
In math workshop, we have been using different websites to help learn our math skills. One of them is www.xtramath.org. We have found this to be a fun way to practice math facts, which can be boring, but not with technology! We are also using www.thelearningodyssey.com to differentiate our learning. The program sets up an individualized learning path based on an assessment that we take. We look forward to trying out some new sites soon. We'll be flying through our skills and facts!!

In reading workshop, we have been studying informational text and we have been using www.pebblego.com to read and learn more about topics that interest us. We can click on colored words to get the meaning of those words, we can listen to someone read the passage to us, and we have lots of topic choices to choose from. We love reading on the Chromebooks!

In writing workshop, we are writing "All About " books. We are using the computers to look up information that we may want to add to our books. We have found many interesting facts that will make our books much more informative. We are looking forward to sharing our books with our classmates and others in second grade.

We are so lucky to have a Chromebook for every student and we can't wait to find other ways to incorporate them into our daily learning routines.





“Moor News” from Mr. Moor’s 3rd Grade Class



This past week, the entire class read a Thanksgiving classic; Molly’s Pilgrim. It is a story about a Russian immigrant family that moved to the states seeking freedom. We talked about the multi-ethnic nature of America’s citizens and that we need to appreciate the feelings of someone who is different from us. We were able to figure out the main idea of the story by envisioning and making a mental movie in our mind as we read.

Math: There is only one word to describe math these past few weeks. . .Operations! We have been working really hard developing and practicing strategies for addition and subtraction of 2 and 3 digit numbers. We have also been representing multiplication using arrays, and using these representations to develop strategies for solving multiplication facts. We are in the process of becoming mathematicians and now know that a good mathematician should be able to complete a problem quickly and correctly; find our own mistakes and fix them; use different algorithms/strategies; and explain our thinking to others.



España



Costa Rica



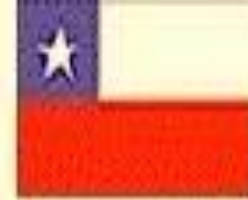
Bolivia



Venezuela



Cuba



Chile



El Salvador



Ecuador



Guatemala

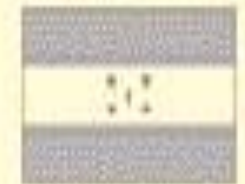


México

– **Where are you from?** In 3rd grade we are pointing out countries in a map where Spanish is the official language. They ask “**¿De dónde eres tú?**” with their “pasaporte” on hand as they show the location of their adopted country. There are 21 countries. This is a new question to the “Hola amigo” dialogue where students learn to be global citizens as they prepare to ask familiar questions to new friends of the world. Students also label their “pasaportes” in the Spanish practice that requires both



Colombia



Honduras



Guinea Ecuatorial



hablo  **Español?** 



Nicaragua



Panamá



Paraguay



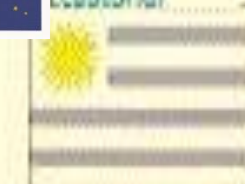
Perú



Puerto Rico



República Dominicana




Uruguay



Celebrations in Mexico



In 1st grade, we also compared the celebration of the “Dia de los Muertos” as students listened to some of the activities families prepare for the day. A display of mementos like pictures, favorite foods, drinks, candy, decorations are some of the objects around the homes in Mexico. Students created little “farolitos” or mini lanterns to represent one of the decorations and remembrances of this time. We sang our colors song as we placed color tissue papers on a tissue roll. Our “farolitos” are illuminating our hallways at school until winter break.



Where are the mariposas?

In 2nd Grade- we discussed ,illustrated and matched the cycles the Monarch butterflies go through the months and seasons. We practiced sequences as we sang the months and seasons songs. Paper butterflies were colored and we located Mexico in a map of North America. The butterflies will “sleep” in the hallway until March when they take off again to a new cycle.



The people of the area celebrate the arrival of the butterflies as the remembrance of their lost loved relatives as part of the celebration of the Day of the Dead.

Halloween in Mexico?

Kindergarten students listened to a similar tradition to Halloween called the “Day of the Dead”, a family celebration, where children also get to dress up in a costume and eat candy in the shape of skulls of many flavors. “Dia de los muertos” is a remembrance of family members who are no longer with them, which is celebrated in Latin America especially in Mexico. We compared cultural practices and the differences like, Halloween is a community event compared to a family event. Students named and colored their “Dia de los Muertos” mask with colors azul = blue, rojo = red, Amarillo = yellow, verde= green, morado = purple, anaranjado = orange, Rosado = pink,





Twenty Minutes a Day!



The more reading children do, the more quickly they will develop as readers. It is recommended that beginning readers spend 15 or 20 minutes reading each day in addition to the reading they do at school. If your child is interested and enjoying what they are reading, it is fine to encourage more time. However, we do not want children to become too tired. For children to read for longer periods of time, it will take a while for them to build up their reading stamina.

Beginning readers will benefit from reading to someone and many will not be interested in reading alone. It is important to find time every day to listen to your child read. Reading will take energy and concentration, especially at the early stages of learning to read. To help, find a place where your child can read without too many distractions (such as the TV or other conversations) going on in the background and a time when your child is not too tired.

Even if your child is not reading yet, reading aloud to your child builds early literacy skills. This is one of the main ways to help your child develop phonemic awareness - the understanding that words are made up of distinct sounds and that there is a connections between letters and sounds. When you read with your child, they learn that print is a representation of the words you say aloud. This understanding continues to grow with repeated experiences with reading. Early experiences of being read aloud to are one of the single greatest factors in a child's ability to read.

Our lives are so busy that it's difficult to have "quality" one-on-one time with our children without distractions. Building 20 minutes into each day for reading together can be a wonderful time for both you and your child. Whether it's snuggling a young child on your lap while reading a storybook aloud or spending 20 minutes reading independently together that provides you with quiet uninterrupted time together engaged in the same activity. Give your child the best advantage and read with them 20 minutes a day!

Linda Kaminsky
Literacy Instructional Support



WE HOPE YOU HAD
A GREAT WEEKEND!

