

First Grade Monday Letter

November 30th –December 4th

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends. We have now started the last three weeks of school for 2009. We will be focusing on the birth of Christ and being grateful.

Quarter Mile Update: So far we have collected 412 quarters. We have been measuring, weighing and counting them. We want to encourage students to bring in all kinds of change as well. With the other kinds of loose change that has already come in, we have been able to learn quarter equivalents and other ways to count dollars. We have an ongoing daily competition with our Study Buddies! This has been a great opportunity to encourage and be encouraged by them.

For our Christmas party on December 18th, we are asking each student to bring a wrapped, used, age appropriate, children's book. Please be sure that the book has not been written in or torn and please do not go and buy one. Also, include your child in choosing the book as well as wrapping it. Books need to be brought to school by Wednesday, December 16th. If for some reason, you cannot participate please let me know by Wednesday, December 16th.

Congratulations to Kassidy, Adiola, Michael and Brandon! They will be representing 1st grade in the School's Spelling Bee on Thursday, December 3rd at 9:00 in the Chapel.

We have started our Study Buddy program with the Fifth grade classes. We are trying to build camaraderie as well as working together on projects. For the holidays, we are making stockings (6"x9") for our Study Buddies. We need your help with the stocking stuffers like holiday pencils, erasers, candy canes, other wrapped holiday candy or small items that would be appropriate. We need enough for 30.

Dates to remember::

- *Book-It due no later than Wednesday, December 2nd.
- *Progress reports will be sent home on December 18th.
- *Just a reminder...Friday, December 18th is a minimum day and there will be **No** after school childcare. Dismissal is at 12:30 p.m.
- *January 4th, School resumes

Key Concepts for the Week

Phonics: On Thursday, *December 3rd*, our phonics test will be on Chart 14b. Please make sure that you are practicing saying and writing these sounds! Look for them as you read!
(omb in comb, ew in few, ew in flew, -y in rainy, -er in bigger, -ly in slowly, -en in sharpen, ild in child, ind in kind)***include hyphens for prefixes and suffixes.

- Dividing words between consonants that are not the same. ie: scram / ble

- Writing the root word and the suffixes, -ing and -ed.

*Looking ahead: December 10th, Phonics rules: Phonics Chart 15a. (imb in climb, -es in peaches, c in city, au in faucet, aw in saw, ea in leaf, ea in thread, ea in steak, ie in brownie) *must include hyphens for test.*

Math: Reviewing:

- Counting mixed coins; pennies, dimes
- Addition up to 12
- Word problems
- Subtraction strategies 0-12

Language: We are still concentrating on sentence writing, beginning with a capital and ending with a period. **New Concept:** Adding suffixes to make new words.

History: Symbols of America

Science: Skeletons

Bible: Christmas Story

Chapel Bible verse: Study for Friday, 12/4

“Whatever you do work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord, not for men. Colossians 3:23

Spelling: Test on Friday December 4th: Review words

oil, boil, spoil, join, moist, noise, point, boy, joy, toy, proud, blow, skirt said, what

Looking ahead: For Friday, December 11th: book, look, good, foot, wood, shook, boot, food, loose, moon, room, roof, tooth, have, give

P.E.:

Computer: Microsoft Word: Typing a Sentence with a capital letter, correct spacing, and punctuation.

Spanish: Review body parts and assemble a person on page 171.

Music: Instrument focus: Sousaphone

Homework Schedule

Monday: Reading: The Family Christmas Tree project (see directions)

Tuesday: Reading

Wednesday: Reading

Thursday: Spelling Bee at 9:00 a.m. in Chapel, No Reading

Christmas Tree projects are due by Friday, December 11th.

