

April Newsletter

K/1 - 309

4/9/18

Dear Parents and Guardians,

April is finally here! Spring has sprung and your children are so excited to learn and experience all of the wonderful things this season has to offer.

Reading: This month, kindergarten will continue Unit 3 in Foundations. They are working on tapping CVC (Consonant, Vowel, Consonant) words and then blending the sounds together to read. First graders will end Foundations Unit 8 and begin Unit 9. We are beginning to learn about 'r' controlled vowel sounds. This means that each vowel sounds different when followed by the letter 'r'. We are continuing to practice listening for blends when sounding out words and will work on learning the concept of a digraph blend. (When a digraph and a consonant are next to each other, ex: throw). Also, please go over your child's word list with them every night. During this month we are learning to read and write more and more sentences. We make sure to add an uppercase letter at the beginning of a sentence and make sure we add a period to end the sentence. First graders are learning different glued sounds and reviewing digraphs.

When you read with your child, make sure you use one of the strategies in the book baggies. Have your child name

the strategy being used. For example, if your child says 'running' but the word is run, remind your child to look at the picture and the word. If the person is running and there is no 'ing' at the end of the word, help your child tap out r-u-n with his or her fingers.



This month we are learning to read for information. This means your child will be reading many non-fiction books to learn about animals, insects, people, places and anything they are interested in. Please help them notice what the book is about. Ask questions like "What is this book teaching me? What did I find out about?" Your child should be noticing patterns and using their fingers to read every word.

Writing: During the month of April, we are learning how to write all about books. Your child is becoming an author who teaches readers about a topic they know a lot about. This should be familiar to them because our recent unit of how-to books helps your child stay on information topics instead of a story. You can help your child at home by asking them to teach you all about things they know. Example- dogs, school, going to the zoo, or riding a bike.

Math: kindergarten is working on counting larger

amounts in different contexts. They are being asked to add a small amount to a set and figure out, How many now? This encourages them to begin combining small amounts rather than counting whole collections from one each time.

First graders just began unit 6. We are currently learning how to take surveys and make sense of comparing different data representations. Students will work on describing the number of pieces of data in each category, and using an equation to show that the sum of the response in each category equals the total responses collected.

Social Studies: We are beginning to learn about families and why they are important to us. The focus for the unit will be, how are families the same and different?

Science: We are still learning about animals. Students are currently learning about earthworms. They are labeling different body parts and learning about how they are important.

***As these months are getting warmer, we will be going outside more. Please remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather.**

*If you have any questions regarding your child, please don't hesitate to ask. Thank you!

-Mrs. Santiago