



First Grade News



ISSUE 14

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Reading

This week, first grade word detectives continued to work on understanding how to decode different vowel sounds. After reviewing the silent-e rule, students hunted for silent-e words to collect in their folders. Readers also began learning about the vowel teams “ee” and “ea” and hunted for words with these spelling patterns in their books.



Social Studies

We continued our study of the holidays this week, learning about Santa Lucia, Christmas and Las Posadas. St. Lucia is celebrated on December 13th in Norway and many other European countries. In honor of St. Lucia who carried a candle while helping people during the dark winter, there are parades and children wear crowns with candles or carry sticks with stars. For Las Posadas, first graders learned how families dress up and walk in a parade from house to house, holding candles and flowers. At the end of the parade, they have a party with a pinata and go to church. We also learned about Christmas. Families may celebrate by decorating a tree, singing Christmas carols, exchanging gifts, and spending time with family and friends. We noted that although different holidays are celebrated by different cultures, there are many similar traditions. There are gatherings of family and friends, sharing special meals, decorating with lights or candles, and exchanging gifts.



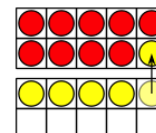
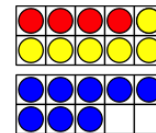
Fundations

In Foundations this week, students learned and practiced writing the suffix “s” with action words. For example: shuts, runs, digs. Students continued to practice underlining the base word and circling the suffix. Recognizing the baseword is so important since some words with a suffix “s” can sound like an “x” at the end like in the word “docks.” First graders also learned three new trick words: **where, there and here.**



Math

This week in Math first graders worked on addition within 20. Students explored the idea of composing and decomposing numbers to add up to three addends within 20. They made use of the base-ten structure and the “add in any order” property when adding, and discovered the usefulness of grouping numbers to make a sum of 10 (or a unit of ten). For instance, to find the value of $4+6+7$, they can rearrange the addends to group 4 and 6, which makes 10, and add the 7. Making a ten is also helpful when finding the sum of two addends. For example, to find the value of $9+5$, students can take 1 from the 5 and group it with the 9 to make 10, and then add the 4.



Winter Performance-SAVE THE DATE

First graders have been practicing many different winter themed songs in Music that we would love to perform for families in a special Winter Performance! Families are invited to join us in the Mitchell cafeteria on Friday January 26th at 8:45 a.m. We hope to see you there!



December 20th: Early Release (12:15 dismissal)

December 26th-January 1st: Winter Recess

January 26th: Winter Performance. 8:45 a.m.



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