



The First Grade Flash

January 26, 2007

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HOMEWORK:

Homework is due on
THURSDAY!
(February 1st)

IMPORTANT DATES:

- ◆ **Monday, Jan. 29th-**
Book-It Assembly

- ◆ **Tues. & Thurs.-**
Language Classes

- ◆ **Wed.-**
Chess and Ski Bus

A note from Mrs. Barnes

Thank you for being so supportive and understanding about my absence on Friday. It was time well spent, although a bit chilly during the night on Thursday. I will be out of the classroom next Thursday for a professional meeting with other district personnel. My participation in professional planning and development at a district level improves the learning experiences of your child and other children too. Finally, if you have any concerns or questions about your child's progress and learning, please contact me right away. I am happy to discuss this with you. Thanks!

Literacy

This week we began writing our fiction stories. Our class worked together to create the first few pages of our fiction story about Norman, then students were ready to write on their own. The focus in writing was including details to introduce the story characters, setting and problem. In the next week students will work further on their story writing and begin story retell writing. In addition to our fiction reading and writing, our class began guided reading groups too. Each group is designed with student reading development in mind. This time is spent in focused group work in individualized reading objectives.

Math

Our Number Games and Story Problems unit continues, with work centered on skip counting and doubles as a means for efficient problem solving. Our class worked with hands and feet in our classroom problems, and decided that these problems were easily solved using doubling. One person is the same as 1+1 hands. We have been working to develop our algebraic sense in math, seeking to make generalizations rather than solve problems differently each time. Math concepts to work with at home: skip counting, coin identification and word problem solving with single digit numbers.

Science

This week we worked with liquids in our Solids and Liquids unit. Three major differences between solids and liquid were explored:

1. Liquids take the shape of their container. Solids maintain their original shape.
2. Liquids flow to fill space. Solids pour to fill space.
3. Liquids form a level surface when poured. Solids do not always form a level surface.

Next week, our class will work with solids in containers and mixtures.