



The First Grade Friday Flash!



Mrs. Barnes' Class News

Friday, December 8, 2006



Book Fair!

Thank you for the book fair gifts many of you helped your child purchase for our classroom. The books are a big hit with our class. It is so nice of you to think of us! We will put the books to good use! Thanks again! ☺

Math

Our focus as we finish the Quilt Squares and Block Towns Unit has been classification of shapes based on their attributes and continued work with shape identification. The class developed definitions of two dimensional shapes and tested them against drawn objects. I was impressed with the higher level thinking skills displayed as students proved or disproved the definition of a given shape. We will assess for this unit in the next week.

Literacy

The second literacy unit, FICTION, has started for first grade. We have developed a working definition of fiction text. We also focus our work on the traits of "good readers" to work on key strategies for increasing comprehension and understanding of text. This week our focus was story elements. We read Chrysanthemum and Owen, both books by Kevin Henkes as we worked to analyze the main character of the story. Ask your child to tell you about these two great books and their main characters!

DATES TO REMEMBER!!!

PAJAMA DAY → 12/19

NO SCHOOL → 12/20-1/1



SNOWMEN AT NIGHT

PAJAMA DAY!!!

On Tuesday, December 19th, the first grade classes will have a winter fun pajama day! We will wear our p.j.'s to school, drink hot cocoa and eat snacks together while listening to the book Snowmen at Night. Students are allowed to wear their pajamas, bring a favorite book for our independent reading time and a stuffed animal/favorite blanket, etc. from home. We will kick off the winter break in pajama style! ☺

HOMEWORK PACKETS:

DUE THURS., DECEMBER 14th

REPORT CARDS:

The Bellevue School District report cards are designed to reflect your child's current level of progress based on the trimester expectations. Given that report card expectations change through the year, trimester by trimester, you can expect some of your child's grades to change with each report card. This is important for parents and students to understand because it means comparisons from trimester to trimester will not reflect your child's actual progress. I list some of your child's levels of progress specifically in the comments section of the report card. When the second report cards are distributed, you will be able to clearly see the difference in what students have learned and are expected to be able to do during that time period. Please contact me with any questions.