



The Parent Connection

First Grade at E.A. White School

November 21, 2008

First Grade Parents,

It has been another great, educational, and fantastic week! . Please help the children to remember to bring their library books to school every day. Thursdays are our day to go to the library. The children will use their library books at their desks during the day for silent reading time. Please read with your child every night. Repeated readings of their books will help them become more confident and fluent readers. Help the children to remember to bring their bag of books back to school every day. I will keep them over the weekend. The children brought home a sheet of 220 Dolch sight words. It is important that the children learn these words over the course of the year. I don't give lists by each nine weeks, but rather all the words that are needed to read confidently and fluently. Thank you so much for coming to our Thanksgiving program. The children worked so hard and were so excited to share that day with their families. I am very thankful for such supportive and giving parents. The treats were delicious! Thank You!!

Thank you to all of the parents that helped with our Thanksgiving celebration. You are the best!! ☺

Some new websites to visit:

www.starfall.com

www.pbskids.org

www.handwritingworksheets.com

This week: This week we have worked on many things to include guided reading groups, literacy centers, daily writing activities, **math** (patterns, subtracting using a ten frame and other manipulatives, tens and ones, picture graphs and comparing and contrasting) and adding to check our subtraction. We have also worked on proper punctuation when writing, as a class, as well as in journals. The children write in their journals everyday on various topics. The children have been bringing home a notebook labeled "Letters to Parents". **Please**

write them a little note after you read their letters. Send this back to school every Monday. On a daily basis, I read to the children from a chapter book. **We will vote on a new chapter book after the Thanksgiving break.** The children are doing great in their reading groups. We meet daily, read, write, talk about the story and do follow up activities about the story we read. In **science**, we are talking about the life cycle of a turkey. We also observed what happened when we froze our water balloons. We record the daily weather and temperature on individual graphs each day. In **health**, we are finishing a chapter on wonderful food and the food pyramid. In **social studies**, we are talking about the Pilgrims and Indians and the first Thanksgiving. We are discussing the way things (traditions and customs) were back then and how they are today. The children will have plenty to share about their week!

Week after next week: As an extra special treat (In addition to the treasure box); I am going to invite any of the children that remain on green circle all week to have lunch with me in the classroom on Fridays. The children are all very excited about this opportunity. Lastly, we will continue to work on mastering the standards for the second nine weeks (look in your class handbook for standards broken down by each 9 weeks) by doing daily assignments and activities in math, reading and language arts, science, social studies, and health. In **science** we will begin to discuss winter animals and hibernation/migration. In **social studies**, we will begin to talk about unit 5 "A County of Many People". We will also begin to discuss the different holiday celebrations in the month of December. In **math**, we will continue to learn about adding and subtracting numbers to twenty.

I wish all of you a very **Happy Thanksgiving.** I am very thankful for my wonderful parents, awesome class and my husband and daughter, Emma Grace. I have talked to the children all week about being thankful and being a giver this time of the year (and always). Ask them about the different ways that they can give to those in need. Be safe if you are traveling and have a wonderful Thanksgiving. See you in a week.