



CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER



August 24, 2015

Phonics/Reading

In phonics we are reviewing consonant sounds, clusters, and digraphs. We will use riddles, games, songs, and practice sheets to review these skills.

In reading we will review the six reading strategies: predict/infer, phonics/decoding, monitor/clarify, question, evaluate, and summarize. We will be reading books and discussing how to use these strategies before, during, and after reading. These strategies will help the children to become successful readers. Next week we will continue to review and practice our strategies and begin reading the stories in our readers/anthologies. Our first theme is "Silly Stories". All of the children will work on the same story at the same time in the reader/anthology. The children will also work in small groups on stories of the same theme on various levels to further develop vocabulary, comprehension, fluency and independent reading skills.

Please encourage your child to read at least 75 minutes every week. Your child should practice reading silently and aloud. Please ask him/her questions about what he/she has read.

In your child's Open House folder you will find the Dolch Words for pre-primer through Grade 2. The Dolch words are words that children need to learn to help them read fluently. Mastery of these words is very important. Please practice these words.

Spelling

Our spelling words are basic second grade reading and writing words. This week we will have a word test on Wednesday and a sentence test on Friday. For each of these tests the words or sentences will be dictated to the children several times while they write them.

Wednesday's test

bad box cap come fan fox hen
hot jet map met nap red sad set

Friday's test

1. The bad fox met the sad red hen.
 2. The hot cat can nap on the box by the fan.
 3. He can come in a jet.
 4. I set the map by my cap.
- Please practice for these tests.

Generally on five day weeks we will have a practice spelling word test every Tuesday, a word test on Wednesday, and a sentence test on Friday. Children who receive a 100% on the Tuesday practice word test will not have to take the Wednesday word test. Everyone takes the sentence test on Friday. A complete list of this year's spelling words and sentences in your child's Open House folder. Please save this list. This list is also available on our web site at

<http://www.genevaschools.org/SpellingLists.aspx>

Math

Our math series is Everyday Math. We will be working on the first four lessons this week. We will count by ones; read and write numbers to 10s, 100s, and 1,000s; compare and order numbers on a number line; count by 1s, 5s, and 10s by using coins; use a counting-up strategy to calculate the total value of coin combinations; calculate the values of coin combinations; review months, weeks, and days; review telling time to hour, half hour and quarter hour; use probability terms to describe events; name days in a week; tell and show time to the nearest half-hour; and describe calendar patterns and use patterns to solve problems. We will also review and practice the addition and subtraction facts, counting money, and telling time. At the beginning of each unit you will receive a Family Letter. Please keep this letter in the plastic pocket in the middle of your child's red work folder for reference during this first unit. This Family Letter has information on it that you will find helpful for helping your child with math and his/her homework/homelinks for the entire unit.



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English

In English we will discuss sentences, capitals, periods, and question marks. We will work on writing telling and asking sentences. We will also start working on our journal writing. During August and September we will concentrate on writing a sentence with a naming part (subject) and doing part (predicate). We will also make sure all our sentences begin with a capital letter and end with the correct ending mark (period, question mark, or exclamation mark).

Printing

In penmanship we will work on legibility, letter formation, letter size, and spacing between letters and words. A reference sheet showing proper letter formation and size is in your child's Open House folder.

Science/Social Studies

In science we will discuss the gerbils in our room. We will also discuss the proper care of our classroom pets. In our science books we will read how a scientist uses the scientific method and review safety rules when exploring things.

In social studies we will be working on maps and map reading. We will also discuss caring and sharing rules for the classroom.

We are part of two regular postcard exchange programs. We will exchange postcards with other classes in the United States. Donations of postcards with pictures of our area or Ohio and postage stamps for postcards would be deeply appreciated for these projects.

School Supplies

Please make sure your child has his/her school supplies as soon as possible. Your child needs:

1. Three (3) or more number 2 pencils with erasers at all times
2. Crayons - 24 colors
3. Pointed scissors
4. White glue of any kind (not paste) and a glue stick

5. A box to hold pencils, crayons, scissors and glue (regular size - not large)
6. Two (2) boxes of facial tissues to share with the class
7. Folder in which to carry papers home - no trappers
8. Ruler showing centimeters and inches
9. No pencil sharpeners
10. No ballpoint pens
11. Once spiral notebook for library
12. Girls - 1 box of sanitizing wipes & 1 box quart size Ziploc bags
13. Boys - one roll of paper towels & box of gallon size Ziploc bags

Also please have the following extra supplies at home for homework:

- * Crayons
- * Pencils and erasers
- * Ruler

Please do not let your child bring toys to school. Also, please make sure your child's name is on all school supplies, coats, and lunch boxes.

Special Dates and Events

- Student Day- 8:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.
- Lunch - 11:10 - 11:30 a.m.
- Recess - 11:30 - 11:45 p.m.
- Monday - Gym 1:50 - 2:30 a.m. (every week)
- Tuesday - Music 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. (every week)
- Wednesday - Intervention Gym 10:40 - 10:55 a.m. (every week)
- Wednesday - Library 2:15 - 2:45 p.m. (every week)
- Friday - Art 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. (every other week)
- Sept. 1 - Labor Day - No School
- Oct. 17 - NEOEA Day - No School

Lunch

Our lunch time is 11:10 - 11:45 p.m. Children will eat lunch first and then go outside for recess. School lunch is \$2.60 and milk is 50¢. Reduced lunch is 40¢. Breakfast is \$1.25 and reduced is 30¢.



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Children who get hot lunch will be given three or four choices for lunch each day. Please look at the menu each morning to help your child decide what he/she will order. They must tell me each morning what they are ordering for lunch. This will allow the cafeteria to prepare enough food for everyone. Lunch menus are sent home each month and are posted on the Internet at this address - <http://www.genevaschools.org/ElementaryFoodMenu.aspx>

From the Teacher

This will be a very busy and exciting week. We will be reviewing in all subjects, meeting new friends, learning new rules and procedures, and working hard to master new skills.

Your child will bring home papers each day that we do together for practice. Papers that he/she has completed independently will be checked and sent home the first day of each week in a blue work-folder. I will include a note about your child's progress and any areas he/she should practice.

Also your child will bring home a red (Ready Every Day) Hometask Folder every night. In this folder any papers in the left pocket may stay home. Any papers in the right pocket are to be returned to school the next day. Also this folder will have a plastic pocket for your child's reading log/record. Children are to read at least 75 minutes every week. There will be another plastic pocket for the Family Math Letter that will be sent home at the beginning of each new unit. Please keep this Family Letter in the pocket for reference as it contains information that you will find helpful when helping your child with math and his/her homework/homelinks for the entire unit.

Please do not send in party invitations for your child to pass out in school unless you are inviting all the girls in the class, all the boys in the class, or the entire class. Passing out invitations to only a few children causes hurt feelings and often tears. If you wish to only invite a few children, please mail the

invitations , phone or email them to their homes.

One of my favorite activities is working on the computer. I feel that our children will need basic computer skills to help prepare them for their future roles. We will be using our four classroom computers every day to complete AR quizzes; practice skills; write stories, poems, and letters; create class Power Point/Local Web Site presentations; and work on research. Each of the children have a membership on <http://www.sumdog.com> where they can practice reading, writing, and math skills in a game format. My class won the math membership at the end of last year and I used the money AESA gave to each classroom to order the reading and writing. Children may go on this site at school and at home.

We will also work on several Internet projects with other classes around the world. At this time we are registered to participate in the Journey South Monarch Project. We have a classroom web site at this address:

<http://www.genevaschools.org/MrsGray.aspx>

On our classroom web site the children may post written and art work. A permission slip to post your child's written and art work was included in your child's Open House folder. Please complete, sign and return this slip if you would like your child's work posted on our classroom website. Currently I am not allowed to post names or photos of students. Each child will be assigned a number and that number will be placed under their work. We will also have information about classroom projects, Internet Projects, current information, and games on our website. There is also a web site for Austinburg School. The web site address for Austinburg school is: http://www.genevaschools.org/austinburgelementary_home.aspx

Please remember if you ever have any questions, ideas, concerns, etc., please write a note , call (school -466-4831 ext.6001) or e-mail (school- roberta.gray@neomin.org).

Roberta Gray

<http://www.sumdog.com>

Log-in: _____ Password: _____