



CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER



August 31, 2015

PHONICS/READING

In phonics we are discussing the consonant sounds, reviewing base words and endings, and working on the short vowels *a*, *i* and *u*. In our phonics library we will read "Len and Linda's Picnic" and "An Ice Cream Crash". The phonics library books are stories that practice our phonics skills for the week. We will also do several practice pages of phonics.

In reading we will 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. This week we are reading, *Dragon Gets By*. We will be working on the strategy of summarizing and the comprehension skill of story structure. We will also work on reading a chart.

High frequency words for this story are: front
kitchen roll until

Vocabulary words for this story are:

- balanced: even; not too much of one thing
- dairy: foods made from milk or cream
- diet: the usual food and drink of a person
- hungry: wanting food
- shopper: a person who buys things
- shopping: going to a store to buy things
- vegetables: roots, leaves, stems, flowers of plants used as food

Please have your child read at least a total of 75 minutes a week. Your child may read silently or orally. Also please ask your child questions about what he/she has read. This helps develop comprehension skills. Your child should be able to tell you the main idea or central idea of the story (Who - did what - when/where), tell you at least four main events in the story in sequential order, and make reasonable predictions while he/she is reading based on what he/she has read. Remind your child to use the cause-effect words (because, so, since) in his/her answers. Your child's reading log is in his/her red homework folder. Reading logs will be checked the first day of each school week.

SPELLING

Lesson 2

Wednesday's test

about am bag dig has his I if is or
ran sat snap was win

*scratch *picnic **mask **bunch **fix

The * words are challenge words. They are each worth 2 extra points if spelled correctly. We will have a practice word test on Tuesday, a word test on Wednesday, and a sentence test on Friday. Every word in a sentence test as well as punctuation is graded. Children also receive a printing grade on their sentence test.

Friday's sentences

1. Ken had milk with his snack.
2. I am about to win a picnic bag.
3. He was going to snap his coat.
4. I can dig or scratch.

Please practice for these tests. You may visit this website and practice this week's spelling words,

<http://www.spellingcity.com/view-spelling-list.html?listId=36218>

PRINTING/ENGLISH

In printing we are working on proper formation, spacing, and neatness.

In English we will discuss sentences, capitals, periods, and question marks. We will also discuss homophones and work on adding details to our sentences to make them more interesting.

For creative writing assignments the children will write at least three sentences on a topic on writing paper. These writings are checked for correct punctuation and sentence structure.

MATH

In math we will examine the book, My Reference Book; introduce the Math Boxes routine; count objects; explore money equivalencies; explore analog and digital time pieces; make exchanges among bills. identify odd and even numbers on the number grid; use the number grid to find 1 more, 1 less, 10 more, or 10 less; count on the number grid; use place-value skills to complete number-grid puzzles; use patterns to compare number-grid puzzles; identify patterns on the number grid; count on by 2s and 10s on the calculator; write equivalent names for numbers; write equivalent names for numbers using facts; and use facts to solve Broken Calculator problems.

We will also do some additional practice in number facts, money and clocks. This week we will have a money quiz on Monday (mixed sets of pennies, nickels, and dimes), an addition facts quiz on Tuesday a clock quiz (o'clocks, half past, quarter past, and quarter to) on Wednesday, a subtraction facts quiz on Thursday, and a weekly math concepts quiz on Friday. Please practice these skills.



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SCIENCE/SOCIAL STUDIES

In science we will discuss water and our weather. Science vocabulary for this week is: evaporate, water vapor, condense, water cycle, erosion, precipitation, volcano, earthquake, landslide.

In social studies we will be working on maps, map reading, globes, and directions. Furthermore, we will continue to review the four levels of behavior and appropriate behavior in school as well as our classroom goals and procedures.

We are part of a postcard exchange program. 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 this project.

COMPUTERS

We will participate in several Internet Projects this year. At this time we are participants in the Journey South Monarch Project.

Your child may also wish to visit our collection of numerous kid-friendly educational web sites. The url is <http://www.portaportal.com> You may login under guest as class7 to view the various websites.

We have a classroom web site at this address: <http://www.genevaschools.org/MrsGray.aspx>

At this site the children may post written and art work. We will also have information about classroom projects, Internet Projects, current information, and games. I am not allowed to post names of students. Each child will be assigned a number and that number will be placed under their work. Your child's number is the number on his/her red worktask folder.

SPECIAL DATES and EVENTS

- Student Day - 8:45 a.m. - 3:10 p.m.
- Lunch - 11:10 - 11:30 a.m.
- Recess - 11:30 - 11:45 a.m.
- Monday - Gym 1:50 - 2:40 p.m. (every week)
- Tuesday - Music 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday - Intervention Gym 10:40 - 10:55 a.m.
- Thursday - Library 2:00-2:30 p.m.
- Computer Lab- 9:00- 9:30 A.M.
- September 7 - Labor Day - No School

FROM THE TEACHER'S DESK

We had a wonderful first week of school. The children are working very hard to be at the "Cooperative" or "Deciding to be Responsible" Level at all the times. Our goal is for everyone to be able to complete their work and to be the best class in our school. A few children are having trouble

concentrating on their work and completing it in class. Any work they do not complete they should bring home to complete and then return it the next day. I would prefer they finish their work at school, but if necessary they may finish it at home unless it is a test. Tests must be completed in class. Please remember to ask your child each day if he/she has any papers to show you or assignments to finish.

Generally I do not assign paper homework the first six weeks except for any math HomeLink assignments. If your child is bringing home extra assignments to finish, these are assignments he/she should have completed in school. Please encourage him/her to stay on task and finish his/her assignments in school.

Please remember if your child is sick or late you need to send in a written excuse. The excuse should include the date of absence or tardiness, reason, parent/guardian signature, and telephone number. Also please put on the top of the excuse Mrs. Gray 2G. As required by state law, the excuses are filed in your child's permanent file.

Please look at the papers your child brings home in his/her blue Weekly Work folder. Praise your child for good marks and help him/her improve any weak areas. Please keep the graded papers, sign the weekly report sheet in the clear pocket, and return the folder and sheet in the clear pocket to school as soon as possible. Papers marked with an I or Inc. should be corrected and returned. It is very important that your child bring his/her RED (Ready Every Day) folder to school every day. Also please check your child's RED folder every day for any important papers or notes.

I would like to extend a special thank you to everyone for completing and returning all of the forms for the first week of school. As a parent of seven children I know how much time it requires to complete all of those first week of school forms. Thank you!!!!!!

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