



CLASSROOM NEWSLETTER

September 14, 2015



PHONICS/READING

In phonics we are working on short *a, e, i, o,* and *u*. The children will be reading "Big Hog's House Hunt" and "Robin's Farm" in small guided groups to practice these sounds.

We are reading "Julius" in our anthologies this week. The children will also be reading leveled readers in guided reading groups. This week we are discussing the strategy of monitor/clarify, fantasy/realism, synonyms, and a comprehension skill review. High frequency words for this week are: brought reason special surprise Vocabulary words for this week are: crumbs imitation noise slurped spread

Please continue to work on the Dolch words. The Dolch words are high frequency words that children need to learn to help them read fluently.

SPELLING

Wednesday's test, Lesson 4 "Julius"

any bug fox from fun hug job
jump leg mop not nut of went
wet *block *every **press **king
**cliff

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. Children who spell all of the words (including the challenge words) correctly on the practice test on Tuesday do not have to take the word test on Wednesday. All of the children will take Friday's sentence test. Every word in a sentence test as well as punctuation is graded. Friday's test

1. Did Jeff spill all of his milk?
2. He did not have any fun on the wet mop job.
3. Every day a bug bit my leg and made me jump.
4. The fox will hug the nut and block from mom.

Please practice for these tests. You may visit this site for online practice of this week's spelling words:

<http://www.spellingcity.com/view-spelling-list.html?listId=36226>

MATH

In math we will complete an unit assessment, solve number stories involving addition; write number stories that involve parts-and-total and change situations; write number models to summarize number stories; discuss +0 and +1 facts shortcuts; use Beat the Calculator to practice facts; identify patterns in addition facts; and identify patterns for +0 and +1 facts. We will have a money test (dimes, nickels and pennies) on Monday, an addition facts and subtraction test on Tuesday and Thursday, a clocks test on Wednesday, and a review quiz on this week's math skills on Friday. Please continue to work on these skills.

PRINTING/ENGLISH

In printing we are working on proper formation, spacing, and neatness. In English we are working on proofreading, parts of sentences, correct beginning and ending punctuation, and the use of "I". Children are required to use proper punctuation in all of their work.

SCIENCE/SOCIAL STUDIES

In science we are discussing weather; how rocks can change; erosion of rocks, sand, and soil; and how earthquakes, landslides, and volcanoes change the Earth. Science vocabulary for this unit is: evaporate, water vapor, condense, water cycle, erosion, precipitation, landslide, earthquake, volcano.

In social studies we will be working on maps, map reading, globes, and directions. We will also be discussing the constitution.

CLASSROOM PROJECTS

We will begin working on our monarch butterflies for the Journey North Symbolic Migration of the Monarch Butterfly to Mexico. Our monarchs will "migrate" to Mexico where



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they will winter until this spring. In the spring, twenty-three monarch butterflies will "migrate" back to us.

We will start working on our postcard exchange project. Donations of postcards with pictures of our area or Ohio and postage stamps for postcards would be deeply appreciated for these projects.

COMPUTER PROJECTS

The children are working in Sumdog and AR. The url for Sumdog is <http://www.sumdog.com> The children know their log ins and passwords. The children may go on Sumdog at home. They have membership in math, reading, and writing.

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.
- Gym - Gym 1:50 - 2:40 p.m.
- 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.
- Friday - Brain Gym - 2:15 - 2:45 p.m.
- Computer Lab- 9:00- 9:30 A.M.
- September 25 - Waiver Day - No School

FROM THE TEACHER'S DESK

Lunch/milk money is collected every morning. Please send your child's lunch/lunch money in an envelope with his/her full name on it.

We continue to work on our levels of behavior. We are working very hard to be on the "C" or "D" level. We are having a few problems with talking during work time which is "B" behavior or bothering others.

Please remember if your child is sick or late you need to send in a written excuse even if you have called the office on the day he/she was ill. 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, these excuses are filed in your child's permanent file.

It is very important that your child learn to stay on task and complete his/her work every day. If your child is bringing home several papers a day to finish besides his/her Home Link homework/hometask papers, then he/she is not staying on task in school. If your child stays on task, he/she will have plenty of time to finish. We will work on work skills all year.

Please have your child read at least 75 minutes every week. Children are to return their reading logs and folders for checking the first day of each week. Your child's reading log and Home link Math homework pages help establish the link between school and the outside world. Establishing this link early in a child's development helps to ensure he/she understands that learning extends well beyond the walls of the classroom. Homework assignments help children review and practice skills, but more importantly, they enhance their learning experiences. These types of assignments also help establish the responsibility in a student to "follow through." Students need to accept responsibility for bringing work from school to home and then from home to school. Please look at the papers your child brings home in his/her task/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. 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