

First Grade January Newsletter



ELA

Readers' Workshop

Readers Meet the Characters in Our Books: Readers will get to know the characters in their books just like they know their friends, noticing who they are, what they do, how they act, how they feel and what they learn.

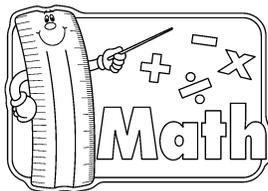
Writers' Workshop

Nonfiction Chapter Books: In this unit the students will take a writing journey that begins with how to make a basic type of information book and ends with students creating multiple information chapter books.



Fundations

Students will learn base words and the suffix -s. Later in the month students will be introduced to glued or welded sounds (-ang, -ing, -ong, -ung, -ank, -ink, -onk, -unk)



Students will learn how relating addition and subtraction help you learn and understand facts within 20. They will also learn how you use place value to model, read, and write numbers to 20.

Social Studies

- The life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- Ways to get along with others and how to solve problems

Science

- Animals and their habitats
- Hibernation
- Seasonal changes using our five senses



Special Area News

Music

In the month of January, the students will be learning many fun things in music class. We will learn about rondo form through a fun lesson about Martin Luther King Jr., which uses lots of instruments. Next, we will learn steady beat and tempo through singing and bouncing balls. We will finish with learning rhythm through a drum circle.



Library

Students will be reading books with interesting characters. We will be analyzing different characters and their traits. Why not curl up with a good book at home to foster good reading habits?!?!?



Physical Education

We will start off the New Year with our always exciting Parachute Unit. The parachute offers us an exciting way to work together as a class to improve our strength, cooperation, and listening skills. We also take the opportunity to work on math, nutrition and science concepts.

From there we will review our loco motor movements and spatial awareness finishing the month by working on our volleying skills. Working on our eye-hand coordination, we will be utilizing our hands and soft paddles within individual, partner, and group activities.

We will continue to explore how our bodies work, identifying our muscles, improving upon fitness levels; continuing to build upon the understanding of how important healthy habits are to an optimal life.

As always we ask that your child come to the gym prepared with sneakers, loose appropriate attire, as well as refraining from wearing any jewelry.

English Language Learners

The ESL classes will integrate a winter theme along with the students' language learning this month. They will learn about winter weather, clothing, holidays, etc. In addition, they will learn about the different things that people do during this season as opposed to other times of the year. The students will read a collection of winter literature selections and respond through class discussions and a variety of written activities.

ELA lessons will incorporate reading, writing, listening, and speaking tasks to improve the students' language skills. Skill building related to the district reading program will help the students in the mainstream classrooms.

