

# October News



# First Grade

Mrs. Douglas, Mrs. Snow,  
Ms. McAndrews

## What we've been up to!

We have been working hard on our classroom expectations as we get back into the routines of school. Following directions is a key component to being successful in learning. We have started center time and listening to directions is so very important! As we finish benchmark testing, students are getting their own books in their own book boxes of leveled books that help them become better readers. We also have begun Rocket Math to help us remember our facts quickly which is a power standard for Grade 1.

## Reading

Guided Reading groups will begin next week as we should have all benchmarks completed and be ready to move into learning groups that focus on skills needed to improve our reading. We will also be doing whole group reading lessons to learn specific phonics skills and mini-lessons that help us attack unknown words. The topics we will be reading and learning about this month include apples, pumpkins, moon and stars and historical figures.

## Important Dates

October 1st- Apple Picking Field Trip  
October 2nd- Governance Council @ 7:30am  
October 11th- No School

October 14th- No School  
October 21st- PTG Meeting @ 6:30pm  
October 25th- Storytelling Festival 6pm  
October 25th- Harvest Festival @ 7pm  
October 30th- Penny Drive Begins

## Writing

We have been very busy writers! We are slowly beginning our SRSD TIDE writing. We will be using the mnemonic TIDE to guide us in our writing, T- Topic Sentence, ID- Important details (three!!), and E- ending sentence! To get here, we will be studying a science/ social studies topic, and creating a fact list of information. We will be pulling from these fact lists to write our informative pieces. In order for us to excel as writers, we have been working hard on "invented spelling." As we come to a tricky word, we persevere and spell the sounds we hear. It doesn't have to be perfect as long as we try!

## Math

We have started math centers and have been working very hard. We will be finishing up Topic 2: Fluently Add and Subtract Within 10. At the end of every topic, we will be taking the online test to practice computer skills. Next, we will begin Topic 3, Addition Facts to 20: Use Strategies. It will be very helpful to continue to review addition facts through 10 as we gain fluency with these equations. In addition, we will continue to use the ST Math program to work on problem solving skills, using online manipulatives.