



Mrs. Volckmann and Ms. Miles 1st Grade!!!

Volume 6 Issue 1

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Off and Running!

We have hit the ground running this new year. We always see a noticeable growth over the holidays in our students and this group followed suit. We are beginning to make small changes to help with the transition to 2nd grade. I know it seems early, but we want it to go smoothly! We are going to focus a great deal on math fact fluency (3 seconds to answer each equation), solving word problems (using the steps I e-mailed), retelling KEY details AND identifying the main idea of stories the kids read as well as those read aloud. We will also slowly begin pulling the amount of support, reminders, and repeated information to help the students become more independent. As always, if you have ANY questions please e-mail me as that is the best way to get ahold of me.

Week In Review and What's Up and Coming!

Reading/Grammar – We continued working on retelling stories but identifying the Key details, not just random facts. We also worked very hard on determining the Main Idea by asking the students “What was the whole story all about?” In grammar we began learning all the ways the vowels are used in words – bossy e, 2 vowels go walking, etc. We will continue to work on these skills over the next few weeks as they are key standards both on the report card as well as in 1st grade.

Writing – We introduced Opinion writing. The students are showing a great deal of excitement about it. In this type of writing we will be looking for the students to state their opinion, give 3 or more reasons why, and provide a closing statement where they restate their opinion. We are also working on writing a variety of sentences, not just simple statements, using capitals and ending punctuation appropriately.

Math – We are concluding our unit on 3D shapes. The students enjoyed sorting the shapes as well as creating them from other shapes. We are going to begin our focus on word problems. We will work very hard this week every day on subtraction problems, and we will continue our weekly Wednesday word problems from there if the students make good progress by Friday. We have also introduced “important words” to help the students determine if the problem requires addition or subtraction.

Social Studies – We began studying Harriet Tubman. The students are fascinated with her. They will learn about her life, contributions, as well as character traits.

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dersvolckmann/](http://stilllearning.typepad.com/1st_gradersvolckmann/)

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!

Thanks Lisa Kirk, and Janelle Herrero for coming in and helping pull and sort math worksheets.

Thank you to everyone who sent in items for the 3D Shape sort. The students LOVED it!!! If we could teach everything with food, we would master it all the 1st time around. :-)

Upcoming Events!

- ★ Tuesday Jan. 20-21 - Mrs. Volckmann OUT!
- ★ Tuesday Jan. 20 - Taco Mac Spirit Night
- ★ Thursday Jan. 22 - 100th Day - Please dress as if you are 100!

Check out our Blog! stilllearning.typepad.com/1st_gradersvolckmann/

If you read our Newsletter, please write the code words Snow Day in your child's agenda and your child will get an extra Froggy Dollar.