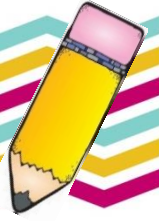


# First Grade News

September 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>



Mrs. Buckley- [kabuckley@stannschool.net](mailto:kabuckley@stannschool.net)

**Mark Your Calendar**

## A Peek at the Week

### Math:

Throughout our last few days, we have continued to work on addition concepts as we explored ways to make 4 & 5, vertical addition and problem solving. Throughout our daily lessons, our first graders used red/yellow counters to model addition facts and even enjoyed writing on their desks with dry erase markers to review these skills! One of our favorite math warm up activities this week was playing "Apple Seed Math," where each table group rolled dice to make addition number sentences. We also loved utilizing our dry erase answer boards to work on math problems on the carpet as we incorporated them into our Smart Board lesson. Next week, we will take a "Check My Progress" and continue our hard work on Chapter 1. The "Check My Progress" quizzes are given in order to see how your first grader is doing mastering the chapter's skills prior to taking the chapter test. Please be sure to sign and return. I continue to be proud of how hard our first graders are working each day in math. I can tell that this is one of their favorite subjects!

### Religion:

This week during our religion lessons, our first graders learned a great deal about Our Lady of Sorrows. While we will dedicate several months this year to celebrating The Blessed Mother, I believe it is also important to remember The Blessed Mother as Our Lady of Sorrows. We learned about each of the seven sorrows of Our Lady and started working on making our Seven Sorrows Mobiles. Our first graders have been hard at work decorating these mobiles and will be taking them home this coming week! Throughout the week, we also studied several saints including St. Rose of Lima and St. Anthony. We read a short biography for each saint to help us in picking our class saint for the year. We voted as a class and chose St. Anthony as our class Saint this year! Throughout the year, we will complete several special projects and activities having to do with our class saint. Our students are really excited about this opportunity!

### Reading:

During our reading block this week, our first graders were hard at work as we read the weekly story "The Storm" and focused on the short i sound. During our whole group instruction, we also focused on mastering our new *Words to Know*, making words with short i and consonants r, h, s /z/, b, g and learning more about nouns. During centers, our first graders worked on sequencing events by writing about what happened first, next and last in the story "The Storm." We also sorted nouns by whether they were identifying a person, place, thing or animal, and played "Sight Word Blop" in the sight word station. We used puzzles and dry erase boards to build sentences, played "spin a vocabulary word" in the writing center and dug around in our apple themed sensory bin to find their spelling words. We had a lot of fun this week and are looking forward to lesson 3 next week!

### Writing/Social Studies/ Science

Did you know that Johnny Appleseed's real name was John Chapman? During our writing and science time, we have been learning all about John Chapman and his good works across the United States. This week, we also began learning about the life cycle of apples, created our Schema chart to keep up with our new learning during the unit, and even tasted apples in order to help us with our descriptive writing! We also made an apple graph to find out how many students in first grade like apples. One of our favorite writing activities this week was writing all about what each of us would do if we had a bushel of apples. So many students mentioned in their writing that they would share their apples or give them to the poor. It was beautiful to see their generosity come to life in their writing. Our first graders are doing a nice job of utilizing their *Words I Use When I Write* books to look up the correct spelling of several words in their writing and continue to focus on beginning sentences with capital letters and end with punctuation.

Lesson 3 Spelling Words: Week of 9/ 18

log, hot, dot, lot, top, ox

September 21<sup>st</sup>: Midterms reports

September 22<sup>nd</sup>: Mass at 8:30am, Spelling Test Lesson 3

\*September 26<sup>th</sup>: Chapter 1 Math Test

September 28<sup>th</sup>: Snack Pack Service Project, Spelling Test on Lesson 4

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## A Note from Mrs. Buckley:

Dear First Grade Parents,

I hope you all had a nice week and are enjoying your weekend! We had quite a busy week in first grade and had so much fun as we really dove into our apple unit. We also had a blast this week as we had our first meeting of the "Brown Bag Book Club!" During Listening Center, our first graders chose a book to listen to on the iPads and wrote/ drew all about the main characters in their story. On Friday, we filled our bags with popcorn to enjoy as we discussed our favorite books and characters from the week with our partner. It was a great way to recommend new titles to our friends to read. On Friday, we also celebrated taking our first spelling test by having popsicles! It was a nice cool treat to celebrate a job well done!

On Friday, your first grader brought home "Math Review" sheets to help with at home review of Chapter 1. Don't forget our first math test is scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup>.

We are excited to begin Guided Reading this week in first grade! You will begin seeing books coming home in your first grader's book baggie in addition to the daily paper copy of the decodables. Please be sure that your first grader returns the Guided Reading book the next day however, you may keep the paper copy of the decodables. Thank you for your help with this!

In addition to taking spelling tests on Fridays, our first graders will complete a weekly assessment based on the phonics skill from the lesson or the comprehension strategy from the weekly story. These activities provide additional information regarding how your child is doing mastering the weekly concepts. Please be sure to look these over, sign and return the next day. You will see these come home this week. Remember, a copy of the spelling words can be found on our first grade website, the Curriculum Guide or on the Focus Wall sent home.

On the 28<sup>th</sup>, our first graders will be working together to make snack packs to donate to first grade children in Charlotte, who are in need. I have attached the flyer that was sent home a few weeks ago in your first grader's purple folder. We will be encouraging our first graders to begin picking out snacks that they believe another child their age would like to eat. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Also, please let me know if you would like to volunteer for this wonderful service opportunity. We will be making snack packs from 12:30-1:15 on the 28<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to volunteer, all paperwork must be on file in the office. Thank you!

Blessings,  
Mrs. Buckley

# September Snack Packs

## A 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Service Opportunity



There is a great need around our very own area for weekend snacks for children who often have no choice but to go without. On Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, our St. Ann first graders will be putting together snack bags for many of these children and will include special notes and pictures with their snack bags.

Throughout the week of September 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, we will be collecting donated snack items from the list below. We strongly encourage your first grader to be responsible for choosing the items in your pantry at home or at the store. What snack does your first grader believe another child their age might like? Any donated snacks from the approved list would be very much appreciated!

We will work together as a first grade team to pack as many snack bags as possible. In honor of the many children that often go without, we will be abstaining from eating snack on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup> and instead will donate our Thursday snack to another child in need.

We appreciate your donations and support as we look forward to making an impact on our community!

~Mrs. Buckley

*Please send in any of the following snacks if you are able:*

Drink: Juice, Capri Sun or Small Water

Fruit: Applesauce, Fruit Cup

Grain: Crackers, Cereal/ Nutri-grain bar, Pretzels, Goldfish, Trail Mix, Animal Crackers