



# January News Letter

Dear Parents,

We are almost half way through the school year and I wanted to let you know what we are up to in class.

**Reading:** We are in unit 3 of our 6 unit series. By now your child should be reading fluently and have a good understanding of the story. We will begin the "Weekend Buddy Books" program. You will be able to use it to gauge how your child is reading. They should be able to read the story to you so they sound like they are talking. When you read each night with your child ask him/her some comprehension questions about the story they are reading.

**Writing:** We are becoming great writers. Your child should be writing four to five sentence paragraphs. They are expected to begin each sentence with a capital letter and end it with proper punctuation. (. ? ! ) I am encouraging them to use a variety of words to make their sentences more interesting. I keep telling them that I want to see at least 6 words in their sentence. Additionally, in their spelling sentences I am only letting them begin one sentence with "I". For example: using this week's spelling words **hug, cut.** "He gives a big hug to grandma." versus "He hugs grandma." or "We cut colorful paper in Art." instead of "We cut paper."

**Math:** We are working on addition and subtraction facts to 12. We are learning various strategies to help us master these facts. Such as, counting on from the larger number, using a number line and touch math counting-- The goal for end of 1<sup>st</sup> grade is for your child to have mastered all the addition and subtraction facts to 12. We will be beginning a "**Mad Minute**" math fact paper. They are given a minute to complete as many facts on the paper as they can. . Each child will be working at their own pace. Once they have successfully completed the fact page they're on, they will be bumped to the next fact page.

**Science:** We have been learning about penguins. This is lots of fun! ☺

**\*\*Classroom Supplies** - Our tissue supply is almost totally used up. If anyone would care to donate some tissues, we would love it! We could also use empty plastic peanut butter containers with the lids for a project.

I hope you all had a happy and healthy holiday, ☺

**Mrs. Turner**