

Date: October 14, 2019 Week 8

Important Dates

- October 7th -21st- NKT (math assessments-Number Knowledge Test)
- October 21st- Fundraiser Begins
- October 25th- Box Top Collection
- October 30th- End of first Quarter
- October 31st- FAIRY TALE DAY and Learning Experience

Our Class Website:

<https://mrswhelansfirstgrade.weebly.com/>

Letterland

Words to Practice This Week:

Unit: 6

<u>ub</u> cub cubs	<u>ug</u> bug bugs hug hugs jug rug	<u>un</u> fun bun sun run	<u>up</u> up cup	<u>ut</u> but cut hut shut	<u>uck</u> duck ducks <u>Tricky Words</u> two helps
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* We have a test every three weeks (Tri-Weekly)

These words will be on the test scheduled for: **October 18th**

* The test will include words from units 4, 5, and 6

Ways to Help Your Child at Home:

- * Practice related facts (Ex: 8+2=10, 2+8=10, 10-2=8, 10-8=2). It is very helpful to use objects to practice these facts. Once the concept is built, your child will become fluent.
- * Ask your child to define the following words (from our science unit): stable, balance point, counterweights, fulcrum, motion, axle, air resistance, vibration and force.
- * Read non-fiction books and encourage your child to ask/write questions that they are still wondering about.



Mrs. Whelan's Weekly News

Please make sure you have signed up for a conference at the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b48a8aa22a31-fall4>
If you cannot come in due to transportation issues, I am more than happy to have a phone conference. Please just let me know. WCPSS requires a minimum of two conferences per school year. IF YOU NEED AN INTERPRETOR, PLEASE LET ME KNOW SO THAT I CAN MAKE ARRANGEMENTS. I have also put out a sign up genius asking for help with penny cash-in days at the end of each month. The link for that is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b48a8aa22a31-help> Thank you to those families who have already signed up. Also, to the families who have sent in prizes. More prizes are welcomed...we are running low on small items like erasers, stickers, rings, etc.

Fairy Tale Day is October 31st. We are so excited and are basically fairy tale experts ☺. Please remember that your child will come dressed to school in their costume. We have invited the whole school to the blacktop (playground area) to see our parade. It will begin promptly around 9:30. The parade only lasts about ten minutes, so please make sure you are there on time...you do not want to miss your child's shining moment. Then the first grade classes will go back into the building to begin a whole day of fairy tale learning experiences.

This week in math, we will continue to work on learning strategies for solving addition and subtraction equations. We will use manipulatives; as well as the following strategies: count on/back, number line, ten frames, draw it, and using related facts. I went to a math workshop on Wednesday, for the teacher workday, and learned some new exciting information about fluency. This is a great quote I'd like to share- "What books are to reading, play is to math". In other words, play games that build the foundation and concepts of numbers. One game that was recommended was Tiny Polka Dot and as children get a little more advanced, Prime Climb was recommended. Ask your child how they are solving problems. Getting the correct answer is important, but also look for how your child is thinking about the problem. This is the reason why there's such an emphasis on the "explain" part within our math curriculum. It is very important for a child to verbalize/write about how they've derived at a given answer. In reading, children will now choose their round 1 and round 2 choices, since all parts of the Daily 5 have

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been introduced. I also have to say that I am SO IMPRESSED with how well the children are doing with the Chrome Books during listening to reading. During daily lessons, we will focus on fiction through fairy tales. In this area, we will continue to discuss and implement our knowledge of fairy tale elements. We will also focus on non-fiction. Last week we read about "Autumn" and generated a word bank. From that word bank, your child wrote facts that they've learned. This project is hanging up in our hallway. This week, we will continue to explore non-fiction by asking questions about the information we are learning. In writing, we will continue to work on our second narrative. We've focused on an opening sentence and a closing sentence during our planning, since this was an overall area of need. In the final copy we will check to make sure our writing makes sense and that we've used temporal words (first, next, then, last). An emphasis will be placed on editing-making sure we include appropriate spacing, capitalization, punctuation, "kids spelling" for unknown words (written the way it sounds and can be read by someone else), and spelling sight words correctly. In Letterland, we will work on words with the following patterns: **ub, ug, un, up, ut, and uck**. **Our Tri-Weekly test for units 4, 5, and 6 will be this Friday.** We have complete our Science unit on Balance and Motion and we'll have the unit test on Monday. On Tuesday, we will begin learning about using geographic representations and terms by examining various maps. You may want to point out maps at home and within the community as well. This will build your child's knowledge of mapping skills.