

Notes from Mrs. Bosch

Friday, November 8, 2019



GROVE AVENUE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

◆ Continuing Conversations about Moods:

During our class meetings, we have been focusing on moods. Strong feelings can result in moods that feel difficult to escape from. We learned what a mood is, that moods come and go with time, and that we can be the pilots of our moods and steer ourselves toward a better mood. We brainstormed ways to do this and students shared their own examples.

Dates to Remember:

- * Monday, Nov. 11th – Veteran's Day:
We will share the interviews that students conducted.
- * Thursday, Nov. 14th – Feed My Starving Children Outing
- * Wednesday, Nov. 20th – Family STEM Night at Grove
- * Tuesday, Nov. 26th – First Grade Traditions Feast
- * Tuesday, Dec. 17th – Winter Musical featuring 1st graders

Notes:

◆ **FMSC:** The optional service outing at Feed My Starving Children is next week! We will be packing at the Schaumburg location (740 Wiley Farm Court, Schaumburg, IL 60173) on Thursday, November 14th at 6:00 p.m. Please visit the www.fmsc.org to view their policies and requirements. Our classroom donation collection is growing. Thank you for sending in change!

◆ **First Grade Traditions Feast:** In honor of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, the first grade teachers would like to organize a special experience for students. We want to highlight the importance of being thankful, as well as honoring the heritage and traditions of each family. Our plan is to have a community luncheon within each classroom. In order to do this, we are asking families to send in a dish for your child to share with their classmates.

This dish should be a food that represents your family's traditions or heritage. In the past, this has been such an enjoyable event for all involved. I know some parents have asked about opportunities to come into the classroom/interact with students. I would love to have a couple volunteers come into the classroom and help to pass out food during the feast. It will most likely be held on Tuesday, 11/26 at 10:30 a.m.

◆ **Family STEM Night:** This event was a lot of fun last year. This year, Grove is hosting the event on Wednesday November 20th beginning at 6:30 p.m. It is a self-guided family event that is great for all members of the family.

◆ **Winter Musical:** Please set aside the date of December 17th for a musical performance featuring Grove's first graders. Show times are usually around 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. More information will be sent out later.

Learning:

◆ **Read Aloud:** We began our first long chapter book read aloud, *Appleblossom, the Possum*. Even though this is a fiction book, we are learning a lot about opossums. All of the students are challenged with thinking about this text. Chapter books tend to require more thinking than shorter books due to factors such as complicated vocabulary, greater number of characters, the need to remember the story line over a longer period of time, fewer illustrations, etc. We use discussion and retelling to help the students keep track of what is happening. The students are doing a great job following the plot and getting to know the characters. The end of each chapter leaves us in suspense!

◆ **Writing:** Students finished their informational picture books this week. They have been working hard to teach readers using twin sentences and illustrations. Next, writers will transition from writing nonfiction picture books to writing nonfiction chapter books. Students will learn that nonfiction writers often begin by writing a table of contents that lists chapter titles. Next, the writer will choose a chapter, plan out what to write, and write long. We will discuss the meaning of the word, *details*, and talk about using comparisons, descriptions, and lists to write long.

◆ **Math:** Students were also introduced to the concepts of fractions by deciding if shapes are separated into even parts. We defined fractions, introduced the words: *denominator* and *numerator*, and practiced identifying fractions. Our focus was on the fractions $1/2$, $1/3$, and $1/4$.

Students took the assessment for Unit 5: "shapes and patterns". Please take a moment to look over the assessment.

During the next short unit, your child will be learning about ordinal numbers to describe positions. Students will also learn how to use position words to name relative positions. It is important that your child knows how to identify left from right. We will discuss how your left hand makes the letter "L" with the pointer finger and thumb.

Please play a couple favorite math games from the game binder as we did not add a new one this week.