Hello First Grade Families!

We have had an amazing week in the First Grade. We have finished some projects, sent our book off to be published, have been reading up a storm, and have learned some new math games. We have danced, laughed, and learned. It has certainly been a great week together.

In ELA this week, we finished our “How To” writing piece. It is now hanging in the computer lab to help our school remember how to clean up the computer lab once you finish using it. Mr. Smith was very happy and thankful that we wrote it for him. The best part is that I only wrote the title and about two words! The students wrote the rest. We tied in our phonics lessons to complete this writing project. We also read several “How To” books and we are noticing these stories in our everyday life. For example, we need to know how to wash our hands, how to tie our shoes, etc. It is certainly fun to see the kids making those connections between texts, classroom, and real life. We continued to work on changing the last sound in words as well this week, and we have gone from having a tough time doing this, to being able to do it almost instantly. Some students are building stamina for Listen to Reading, and more will do that next week. Students are also meeting in small groups in the morning to work on the spelling stage that they are at. Some students are working on digraphs (sh, ch, th), some are working on blends, some are working on long vowels, etc. I am seeing a change in their writing as well now. They are applying the knowledge that they are learning in groups and interventions to their writing and reading, which is great! We also compared and contrasted two books about Spring.

In Math this week students have been working on their fact fluency to 10, adding 10 to single digit numbers to get the teen numbers, working on place value for teen numbers while playing Tricky Teens Bingo, working on subtraction facts to 10, etc. They have been playing these games while I have been giving the CFA Post Test for Unit 2 and the CFA Pre Test for Unit 3. These tests give us valuable information on where to start teaching our units!

In Science this week we continued to monitor and write about our Trout! We really are working hard on using descriptive words and using our eyes to describe the trout. We also started learning about teeth, including animal teeth!

Overall, this week has been fun and busy. We have had a blast learning new information, applying skills that we already have and know, and reading a lot. I cannot wait for next week and all of the fun we have in store.

Have a safe, warm, and great weekend!

Ms. LaCasse

Parent Reminders:

* Monday is the 100th day of school. Student projects will be shown at snack time!
* Early release on Tuesday, February 10th, 2015
* Valentine’s Day celebration is on Friday, February 13th, 2015