Hello First Grade Families!

 As I am writing you this weekly news note, I am completely blown away by the date. Can you believe that it is already almost the end of November? I am shocked by how fast this year is already going by. I know that the kids are also shocked. One student recently told me how they were surprised at how fast the school day goes by, and I was in complete agreement with them! Even though our school days fly by and our year is already well underway, I have to say that we certainly did not skip out on any learning this week. We learned an unbelievable amount of knowledge, practice many different skills, and even wrapped up a few projects.

 In ELA this week, students learned how to play a neat game of Go Fish. Instead of asking for numbers, students asked for items. They would ask, “Do you have a c-ar?” and their partner would reply either, “yes, I do have a car,” or “no, go fish.” Students really enjoyed this game, even though it made them really stop and think! Students also finished their puppet shows this week. Everyone has been recorded, and I was able to send out invitations for our Puppet Show next week! I hope that you are able to make it. We also kept practicing our spelling words, handwriting, and of course reading! We have actually been reading a chapter book every day after lunch to calm down from being outside. Ask your student who the main character of our book is and what the title of the book is! It is very exciting to see students getting so thrilled to listen to a chapter book at such a young age. Students also learned how to choose their own partners, and they learned how to choose their way to read when it is Read to Someone time. On Thursday, our stamina was marked at 17 minutes and 49 seconds! If we can make it to 20 minutes of stamina a couple times a week, we can start to learn about the Word Work component of Daily 5.

 In Math, students were given the pre-test for the next Math Unit. Students were also reminded of how to complete subtraction problems by using the method labeled take away. We have spent the week really focusing on the physical model of taking something away, and next week, we will be learned about different ways to subtract, as well as continuing to practice our addition skills!

 In Social Studies, we were able to fix some capitalization errors in a letter to a Veteran, complete some calendar activities, and even start writing our first draft of a Thank You letter to a Veteran. Students are really taking these activities seriously, and their excitement about writing a thank you letter to a Veteran is very heartwarming to see.

 Overall, this week has been full to the brim! One of my favorite moments that occur every day is the moment when we get to sit together as a class and talk about something new. The students soak up every ounce of information that they hear, and it is so fun to witness their learning. I hope that you are able to witness and see their growth and learning every day as well!

 I wish a safe and enjoyable weekend!

Ms. LaCasse

**Parent Reminders:**

* Don’t forget our classroom website!
* Early Dismissal on Wednesday, November 26th, 2014
* Book Orders due on Wednesday, November 26th, 2014
* No School on Thursday, November 27th, 2014 or Friday, November 28th, 2014
* Puppet show premiere is on Wednesday, November 26th, 2014 at 8:30 am.
* York Pond Fish Hatchery Field Trip is on Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014 from 8:30 to 11:00
* Please continue to dress students warmly for the weather! Boots, hats, gloves, jackets, ski-pants are a must!
* Also, feel free to bring and leave extra clothing with me in the classroom. I will keep the extras in a safe place for whenever they are needed.