Dear 1st Grade Families,

I hope that your week has been just as successful as ours! We have been extremely productive, and we have learned so much information regarding both ELA and Math. This week, we also had our first lockdown drill, and the first graders did a wonderful job during the drill.

In ELA, we have been focusing on rhyming, writing the letters that we hear when saying a word, and we have been working extremely hard on identifying main and secondary characters. So, when reading with your student, please talk to them about their main and secondary characters in their books! Also, feel free to talk about describing the characters with them. This week students created paper plate faces of the main characters, and they also wrote one sentence regarding the character that they chose. Students then corrected their sentences with Mr. Brooks!

In Math, students have been working rigorously on number bonds, representing addition problems, and also learning the strategies that we can use to add. We can count on, draw pictures, use manipulatives, write equations, and use ten frames to help us add. We are now working on fact fluency to ten, and using that information in word problems. We are also working on the associative property and the commutative property.

The 1st grade has also just received their first Handwriting Without Tears notebooks, and we have been writing up a storm! We can successfully read for 30 minutes straight, and we have started our Work on Writing with stamina of already 10 minutes. Students are able to share their writing, which has become a source of excitement in our class. We have also started the Handwriting Without Tears program, and for more information on the program, as well as the videos that we will use in class, you are more than welcome to visit our website!

This week has certainly been busy, productive, and full of learning. I cannot wait to see what next week has in store for us!

Have a great and safe weekend.

Ms. LaCasse

**Reminders:**

* Progress Reports come out today
* Scholastic Book Orders closed today
* Parent Teacher Conferences will be starting next week