

FIRST GRADE FLIER

Confidence, Enthusiasm, and Anticipation Abound!

First-grade students took the stage with confidence and enthusiasm as they presented their play, *The Little Red Hen*, on February 8. The production was a huge success and allowed students the opportunity to showcase their talent and dedication on stage. Many thanks go to the parents for all of their support in this endeavor.

The first-grade classroom continues to be filled with excitement as students master the process of adding and subtracting two-digit numbers with regrouping. Students are amazed by their ability to solve such high-level math problems! Students also work hard to tell time to the minute in math class. First-graders are able to use their ability to tell time as they move throughout the school day. "It's time for recess!" is now a phrase that is used accurately and with regularity in the first-grade classroom.

The first-grade relished this year's English Week theme: "From the Page to the Stage." First, they read Michael Rosen's classic picture book, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*.

Then they watched the author perform the book as a dramatic song, and, finally, memorized and performed the whole story for Miss Garcia's Kindergarten class! First-grade students loved the story's refrain, "We're going on a bear hunt; we're going to catch a big one; we're not scared!" In addition, the students worked on creative writing to describe the different settings of the story. They wrote about what they might see, hear, taste, smell or feel in the grass, river, mud, forest, snowstorm, or cave! The first grade's written work and a video of their performance were proudly displayed in the hall throughout English Week.

French class is always filled with fun and learning as the students are quickly increasing their vocabulary. Songs, routines, and games help the students acquire new vocabulary, strengthen comprehension, and practice excellent pronunciation.

In history class, students learned about influential Americans from the past, such as Benjamin Franklin and Martin Luther King, Jr. Next came the study of inventors and inventions. The first-grade students love to learn about famous people, and they continue to be inspired and intrigued by some of these most innovative and creative people.

Hands-on labs are the best way to bring science alive, and the students love to make predictions and see if they are right! The first-graders are enthusiastic and capable as they study such fascinating topics as magnets, force, and energy.

In first grade, students should be practicing reading on a daily basis. Of course, they do this in school; however, the more they are reading at home, the better their reading skills will be.



First-grade students proudly show their flash cards.



What a show!!



Making predictions . . .
Were they right?

Tips to encourage your child to become a better reader:

1. Have your child read to you for about 15 minutes per night.
2. Take turns reading so that you can model fluency and expression.
3. Take books with you everywhere! Have different types of reading available: magazines, books, books on the e-reader.
4. Get your child a library card and make the weekly library trip a treat.
5. Discuss what your child has read, and come up with a fun activity for a favorite book.
6. Read your book while your child reads his/hers.
7. Pick books that are at the right level. Your child's teacher can help if you are unsure.
8. DO NOT correct your child when he/she makes a mistake. Sometimes a child will self-correct, but point out errors to help your child to build up sight vocabulary.

"It is a wise father that knows his own child." ~ William Shakespeare