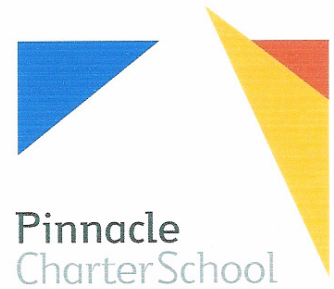


K-1 News

November/ December



Pinnacle
Charter School

Miss Clark's K-1

Volume 3, Issue 3

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MONTHLY REMINDERS:



- **There is no school on Thursday, November 11 due to Veteran's Day**
- **Election Day is Tuesday, November 2nd**
- **There is no school on Thursday the 25th or Friday the 26th**



Parent-Teacher Conferences

It's time to start thinking about the end of the trimester and that means parent-teacher conferences. This year they will be held Thursday, December 10 from 7:30– 4:00. Each conference will last 20 minutes. It is school policy that we meet at least 1 time this year. I will be sending home more information later in the month.

Math

This month we will be focusing on the following topics:

- Temperature
- Measuring to the nearest inch
- Telling time to the hour
- Counting pennies
- Counting nickels

There are some games you can play at home with your child to help them learn these skills.

Penny Nickel Exchange

1. Partners put 20 pennies and 10 nickels in a pile. This is the bank.
2. Players take turns rolling a die and collecting the number of pennies shown on the die from the bank.
3. Whenever players have at least 5 pennies, they say, "Exchange!" and trade 5 pennies for a nickel from the bank.
4. The game ends when there are no more nickels in the bank. The player who has more nickels wins. If the players have the same number of nickels, the player with the more pennies wins.

Penny Grab

1. Get ten pennies. Have your child count to make sure there are ten.
2. Have your child close their eyes while you take a few pennies from the pile and hide them in your hand.
3. When your child opens their eyes have them count how many pennies are left and guess how many pennies are in your hand. This will help them learn compliments of 10.

Theme of the Month:

The theme for November is long ago vs. today. The students will be learning about what life was like in America in the past and comparing it to what life is like today. A word we will be using a lot is tradition. To help you child better understand the concept of a tradition please talk about the type of traditions your family has. They could be how you celebrate holidays or something you do every year at the same time each year. The students will learn about the very first Thanksgiving, famous Native Americans, the invention of trains and cars, the revolutionary war, the civil war and holidays that are celebrate in American during the winter.

Writing

In class we have been working on how to correctly form letters. If your child is still reversing letters this is something you should target at home. Right now students should be able to write one complete sentence that starts with a capital letter and ends with a period, question mark or exclamation point. Try not to spell words for your child. Have stretch their words out and use their sounds to write the word. Writing skills help children develop their reading skills.

Spelling Words

Please remember to help you child study for their weekly spelling test. Each child will take a pre-test on Monday. The words will go home on Mondays. Each reading group has their own set of spelling words based on the needs in each group. The spelling words will now focus on word families that have short vowels in them. Short vowels are particularly tricky for students so we will be spending a lot of time working on them.

Meet Ms. Malenka

Hi! My name is Sara Malenka! I am a graduate student at UB. I will be observing your classroom once a week until the end of the first trimester. Starting in January, I will be student teaching in your class. I am originally from Long Island, but have lived in Buffalo for about 5 years. I am eager to spend time with all of the students in Ms. Clark's classroom!

FYI...

Here is a list of a few websites that are great for the kids to go on at home:

<http://www.starfall.com> (targets reading skills)

<http://www.funbrain.com> (reading, math, following directions)

<http://www.kids.nationalgeographic.com> (social studies/science)

<http://funschool.kaboose.com> (games)

<http://www.pbskids.com> (games)

