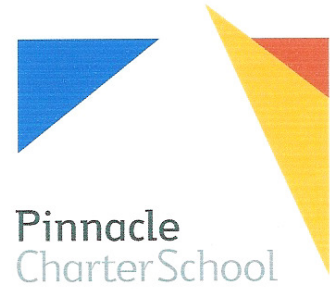


K-1 News

January



Pinnacle
Charter School

Math

Miss Clark's K-1

Volume 3, Issue 4

January 2011

MONTHLY REMINDERS:



- **There is no school on Monday, January 17th, or Monday, February 21st**
- **The last day of the second trimester is Thursday, March 31st**
- **Second Trimester Parent Teacher Conferences are Friday, April 1st**

These are the skills you child will be learning in math for the month of January:

- Number recognition 0-50
- Counting on the number grid
- Odd and even
- Tallies
- Naming numbers that come before and after
- Addition and subtraction

The best thing to practice at home with your child this month is addition and subtraction. The students should know +1, +0, +2, doubles (ex. $4 + 4$), compliments of 10 ($6 + 4$), -0, -1, -2 and differences smaller than 10. Practicing these can take as little as five minutes and can be done while driving in the car, during your morning routine or right before bed.

There are many different strategies the students will use to help them with addition and subtraction. Drawing pictures is a great strategy when the problems involve smaller numbers.

This is the strategy we will be using the most in K-1:

1. Put the bigger number in your head.
2. Hold up the smaller number with your fingers.
3. Start at the bigger number and count up or down (depending on whether you are adding or subtracting) while putting a finger down each time you say a number.
4. The number you say when putting your last finger down is the answer.

Book Fair

Pinnacle will be holding its annual Scholastic Book Fair in the school library the week of January 24– 28. If you would like to volunteer to help out please contact Mrs. Smith at 570-2235. Our class has library on Wednesday the 26th and will be able to purchase books then. On Friday night you can come with your family to check out the book fair and play BAKE-O!

Theme of the Month: Outer Space



The theme for November is outer space. At the end of the month each child should be able answer the following questions: How is the sun a star? -and- How are the day and night sky different? They will use vocabulary words like night, day, sun, moon, stars, light, dark, rotate, spin, Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, comet, meteor, space ship, launch, astronaut, space probe, and space station. Students will also be able to names ways in which the sun is harmful and helpful.

Writing

This month the students will be doing a lot of writing. They will be working on taking an idea and writing multiple sentence about it. They should be able to start each sentence with a capital letter, have spaces between their words, and end each sentence with appropriate punctuation. They will learn to go back and edit their writing to make sure it makes sense and that all sentences are on the same topic.

Spelling Words

Please remember to help your child study for their weekly spelling test. Each new list will be given out on Friday so that your child has the entire weekend and following week to help them learn how to spell the words. Each reading group has their own set of spelling words based on the needs in each group. The spelling words will focus on word families that have short vowels in them. Short vowels are particularly tricky for students so please take time to make sure your child can spell these words. There will be 2 bonus words that are in the word family but have not been studied so I can see if the child truly understands the spelling pattern.

Pen Pals

Starting this month we will begin writing to our pen pals at Pratt Elementary in Barker, NY. We will be writing letters throughout the second trimester. Your child will learn how to ask questions and relate personal information.



FYI...

During the first trimester there were a large number of students who arrived at school late or were picked up early. Since most students eat breakfast at school, they are not able to participate in the lessons that begin first thing like writing or PE when they arrive late.



At the end of the day the students are learning right up until they pack up at 3:45. Plus, there is dismissal work that is counted as a grade everyday. When a child gets picked up before 3:45 he or she is missing out not only on the lesson that is being taught but also a grade for dismissal work.

