

# PEEK AT OUR WEEK

Miss McNerney's First Grade Newsletter, Issue 2

"Children are the hands by which we take hold of heaven."

-Henry Ward Beecher

## Upcoming Events

September 17th

Picture Day

-Free dress

September 20th

Noon Dismissal: West Fest

September 20th & 21st

West Fest

## Reminders

- \* Your child's results of our reading assessments are attached to the hardcopy of this newsletter.
- \* Our first field trip is coming up next month, & we will need chaperones! Please make sure you have completed the Safe Environment class and other requirements to chaperone/volunteer/etc. (More details about the field trip to come soon!).
- \* Details & a link to sign up for our Secret Reader program are on page 3! I will add additional dates for 2020 as we get closer to next year!



First Grade is now in full swing! We have had a wonderful week together reviewing behavior expectations and beginning our curriculum. We discussed the "Owning My Behavior" section that will appear stapled to our newsletter this week; our goal is to learn to "manage ourselves." This slip will be stapled to each student's newsletter every week for the first trimester.

A few curriculum highlights:

### Religion

Our first Religion chapter is called "Revelation." We will be learning about God our Father as the Creator and how He gave our world life. We will discuss how we can share God's love for us with all people and how we can help to take care of his Creation.

### Reading

We will be beginning our reading groups this week! We'll be focusing on friendship & how to be a friend in the texts we read. We will also be reading and writing words with short a, writing a few narrative pieces, identifying nouns, and adding details to pictures with labels.

### Handwriting

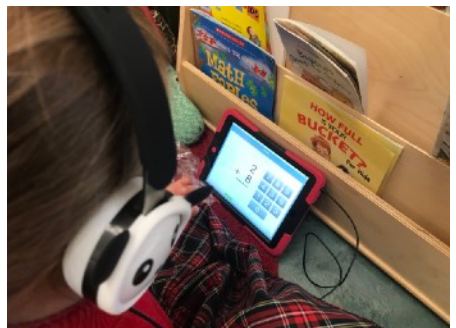
As we refine our skills from kindergarten, we have been reviewing the six strokes that form our letters (top to bottom, left to right, forward circle, backward circle, slant left, and slant right), while using an appropriate pinch grip on our pencil. We've also been practicing appropriate posture when writing: chair pulled in, straight back, feet flat, and a "helping hand" on the paper so it does not slip. Reinforcement at home is appreciated.

### Math

We have been reviewing the concept of numbers, matching objects one-to-one, counting, and writing numbers properly. We are also reviewing & discussing concepts of addition. We are learning to solve addition story problems using a variety of strategies (including using counters and drawing visual models) and then recording our thinking with pictures and numbers.

# A PEEK INSIDE 1A

Happy birthday,

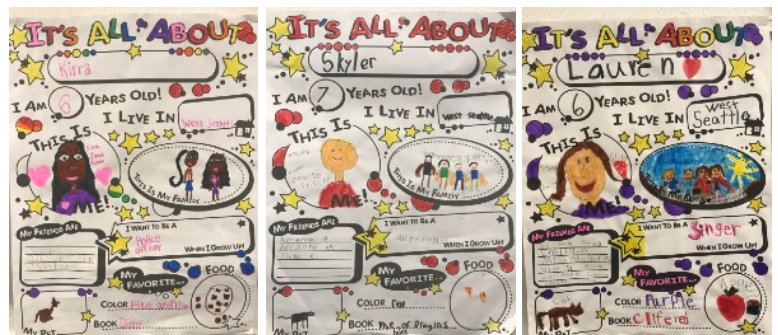


We enjoyed learning about and guessing each other's special talents this week!



Both Father Oakland and Mrs. Borne, our school counselor, visited our classroom this week!

Check out our All About Me posters in the hallway between 1A and 1B. We worked on them throughout the week last week!







The Secret Reader Program is a great way for families to stay connected to our first grade classroom. Every Friday, a parent, family member, or other special person in one of our first graders' lives is invited to come into our class to read 2 picture books to us. The best part is that students do not know the identity of the Secret Reader until s/he walks in the door!

- To sign up, visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054CA5AC28ABFDO-secret1>
- 
- Come to school at your given time and wait outside our room (unseen--perhaps in the doorway of the School Hall near 1A!) for us to call you in & “reveal” your secret identity. Students will try to guess your identity before you come in!
- Bring TWO picture books with you (your favorite, your child’s favorite, a book that fits the season/holiday, etc.)
- You will have about 15 minutes to read two stories/ask students questions about the stories.
- Be sure to keep your visit a surprise for your child- it is a great treat for the children to find out who the Secret Reader is each week!

We can't wait for you to be the  
Secret Reader!