

First Grade Newsletter

Date: 10/6/2017

First Grade Field Trip

The First Grade will be going on their first field trip on Friday, October 13th to Burt's Apple Orchard in Cabot!



We are very excited to announce that the first grade will be heading to Burt's Apple Orchard on Friday, October 13th. The children have been working hard on creating apple boxes of 5 and 10 during math class, and will now get to visit a real orchard!

We will be leaving the Plaza at 10 and arriving at the orchard by 11. We will have a picnic lunch when we get off the bus. **Parents will need to either send in a bagged lunch from home, or sign their child up for a prepared school lunch, (see attached form.)** After lunch we'll get a tour of the orchard to learn all about apple trees, pick some apples, play on the swings, try out the apple slingshot, and maybe partake in a sweet cider donut treat! We will return to school in time for end of the day dismissal. We understand that this is a last minute trip, and are able to cover it with HPES staff. No chaperones are needed.

Students will also have the opportunity to go into the pumpkin patch and pick their own small pumpkins. We will use these the following week for a series of math lessons. Pumpkins will go home with children before Halloween. **To help with the cost of this we are asking all parents to send in \$3.00. The attached permission slip and money are due back to school by Tuesday, October 10th.**

Math Workshop

Mathematical Practice of the Week:

Reason abstractly and quantitatively.



- Use tools to help make sense of problems
- May create a model to help solve problem or use a model to help explain thinking
- Thinks about what operation to use to solve the problem
- Can use numbers and words to help make sense of problems
- Can think about what the numbers in a problem represent and the relationships between the numbers.

Questions to ask at home to further this practice:

- ★ Can you explain what the numbers in the problem mean?
- ★ How did you decide to use this operation?

It was a big week in math! Children were introduced to their Choice Board. This board contains a variety of activities that students have learned to do in their first weeks of school. The Choice Board has been added to our Work Station routine. Most days students engage in the following activities during math:

- ❖ Number Corner
- ❖ Math Lesson
- ❖ Work Stations
 - Dreambox
 - Small Group Teacher Time
 - Choice Board

The Choice Board gives students an opportunity to practice skills they've been learning with the added element of choice. Attached is a copy of this week's Choice Board. Ask your child about it...they've loved it!

Did you know that the local farmers at Burt's Apple Orchard need the help of our mathematicians? They were very curious about what kind of apples first graders prefer: green or red. We graphed our choices and found that most like red the best! The children have also been working on designing apple boxes for the farmers. This week we worked on all the different ways they could pack boxes of five

Mathematicians busy at work!



with red and green apples. Next week we will begin working on boxes of ten. We'll be ready when we take our trip to the orchard!

Writing Workshop

Interactive Writing

The focus in Literacy this week was Interactive writing. Interactive writing is a cooperative event in which the teacher and the children jointly compose a piece of writing together. Not only do we share ideas around what we are going to write, but we also share the active duties of scribing. We use the interactive writing session to model grade appropriate reading and writing strategies in a highly engaging process.

Interactive writing can be used to demonstrate concepts about print, develop strategies, and learn how words work. It provides children with opportunities to hear sounds in words and connect those sounds with corresponding letters. The children are engaged in the encoding process of writing and the decoding process of reading, all within the same text. Interactive writing is a unique opportunity to help our students see the relationship between reading and writing.

During the interactive writing process, the students and the teacher discuss their ideas together. The teacher serves as the facilitator of the discussion. The role of the teacher is to guide, model, add, summarize, confirm, combine, and synthesize the children's ideas. As the actual writing begins, many opportunities for specific teaching points are available. The goal is to get the children's thoughts on paper, discussing the topic and the process of writing.

Coming Events

- ★ Oct 10 - Permission Slips for Field Trip Due
- ★ Oct. 13 - Field Trip to Burt's Apple Orchard
 - ★ Oct. 18 - Early Dismissal
 - ★ Oct. 19 - No School (Inservice)
 - ★ Oct. 20 - No School (Inservice)
 - ★ Oct. 25 - Picture Re-take Day



Field Trip Permission Slip

First graders will be going to Burt's Apple Orchard in Cabot on Friday, October 13th. Please sign the permission slip below and **return to school by Tuesday, October 10th.**

When: Friday, October 13th

Where: Burt's Apple Orchard

Time of Departure: Leaving Plaza at 10:00

Return to School: In Time for Dismissal

Child's Name: _____

- I give permission for my child to attend the field trip to Burt's Apple Orchard
- I do **not** give permission for my child to attend the field trip to Burt's Apple Orchard

All students will need a lunch either from home or ordered from school. Please indicate below which your child will be doing.

- My child will bring a lunch **from home**
- My child will need a **school lunch**
- I have enclosed **\$3 for a pumpkin**

Parent Signature: _____