



Corbitt Connection

September 28, 2009



SMILE It's Picture Day (almost)

This Friday, October 2nd will be picture day. These pictures are PRE-PAID only. If you wish to order your child's pictures please be sure to return his/her picture envelope with exact change only, by Friday, in your child's planner.

Independent Reading Levels

I have completed all of the student's DRAs and, as promised, I am sending home your child's independent reading level in his/her planner today. If you have any questions or would like to see how your child's independent reading level was determined please let me know and I will be happy to show you.

Progress Reports

Please be sure to sign and return the one copy of your child's progress report as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation and support. ☺

Scholastic Book Orders

Just a reminder, if you are interested in ordering books all orders are due this Wednesday, September 30th.

"What Can I Do at Home?"

As you know, one of our main goals for the end of first grade is to reach Level I in reading accuracy. But please don't forget that great reading is also about comprehension and fluency. This week's tip is to work on your child's comprehension.

Ways to build comprehension include, asking questions before, during, and after reading, as well as, retelling the story after the story is finished. One way to tell that your child is truly comprehending the story is if he/she is able to retell most of the events when simply asked, "Can you retell the story for me?" or if they only require one to two prompts. Also, on the reading assessments this year your child will be asked to make connections and reflections to the stories they read.

Writer's Workshop Update

This week we will continue working on narrative writing. Our outside bulletin board for October will highlight some of the great stories that the students have been working on over the past couple of weeks. I am very excited to post the students' work.

Reader's Workshop Update

This week we will be discussing the comprehension strategy Questioning. Our focus will be on BDA Questioning. We will be practicing asking questions **B**efore, **D**uring, and **A**fter we read to increase our understanding.

Skills Block

We have been reviewing the short vowels one vowel per week and building word families during our Skills Block. We have already reviewed "a" and this week's vowel is "i."

MATH WORKSHOP UPDATE

THIS WEEK THE STUDENTS WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON A VARIETY OF COUNTING ACTIVITIES. THE ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE MORE "HOW MANY OF EACH?" STORIES; IT IS CRITICAL THAT YOUR CHILD HAS A STRATEGY THAT HELPS HIM/HER TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS.

Science Update

This week we will be finishing exploring the different properties of matter. This week's focus will be how matter changes and exploring the density of various classroom objects.

Important Dates to Remember

September 30	Scholastic Book Orders Due
October 2	Picture Day
October 7	Early Dismissal @ 1:45 p.m.