



**Public School 8, The Robert Fulton School**

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## 1st Grade Newsletter

November 1, 2019

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### Welcome Note for this month...

We can not believe November is already here. It has been a wonderful first two months of school. We are looking forward to meeting with you for Parent Teacher Conferences this month and sharing about the growth your child has made. Please continue to check the homework cover page for upcoming dates this month.



## Curriculum Updates

**Reading** We have started our second reading unit: *Word Detectives*. We have learned that Word Detectives are always on the lookout for difficult words and call on all that they know to solve them. During the rest of the unit, students will continue to learn strategies for word solving, increase their bank of high-frequency words, and draw on phonics knowledge to continue to read like Word Detectives. **Reading Tip: Encourage your child to use more than one reading strategy when coming to an unknown word in their books.**

**Writing** We are currently writing How To books in writing workshop! We have spent time listening to how to books as read alouds, and participating in activities to distinguish this genre from our previous small moment unit. Now the students have started to generate ideas and write books that teach others how to do or make something! **Writing Tip: At home, practice telling detailed steps using ordinal words (first, next, last) with your first grader to reinforce the concepts we are practicing in class.**

**Math** This month we are finishing up Unit 2: Numbers All Around Us, and will be launching Unit 3: *Adding, Subtracting, Counting & Comparing*. This unit emphasizes efficient math strategies for addition and subtraction, introduces place value concepts, and helps students learn strategies for solving story problems. **Please read the attached letter for ideas to help your child with this math work at home. During homework, ask your child to name and describe the strategy they used to solve their problems.**

Here is the link to the Unit 3 family letter:

<https://www.mathlearningcenter.org/sites/default/files/documents/family/PAR-BR1-U3.pdf>

**Social Studies** This month we will be concluding our first social studies unit: Families and Communities. The children have enjoyed read alouds, conversations, and projects that discuss families' values, celebrations, and traditions.

**Science** Our first unit is Animal and Plant defenses. Students take on the role of aquarium scientists to investigate the phenomenon of sea turtles and their offspring surviving in the ocean despite the danger of sharks and other predators. Students will figure out how animals and plants do what they need to do to survive, defend themselves, and how offspring defend themselves when they are both young, and also when they are grown up. **Science tip: Start having conversations with your child about plants/animals. Ask them how they think plants and animals survive?**

**Fundations** This month we are launching Unit 4. Students will be taught the bonus letter rule: at the end of a one syllable word, if the word has a short sound and is immediately followed by an f, l, or s, double that consonant. Children will also learn several new trick words and punctuation marks. **Fundations tip: Ask your child to find digraphs (wh, ch, sh, th, ck) while reading.**

We will send a detailed unit overview letter home in your child's folder.

### **Important Upcoming Dates: Please mark your calendar for all of the dates below!**

November 5th- Chancellor's Day (no school for students)

November 11th- Veteran's Day No School

November 14th- Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 28th and 29th- Thanksgiving No School

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