First Grade April Newsletter  
  
Thanks so much for all your continued support!

**Dates to Remember**·

Spring Break - April 19th-26th

Bronx Zoo - April 30th

**Reading:** we are starting our 5th Reading Unit- “Meeting Characters and Learning Lessons”. Students will learn

* To use pictures and details in the text to envision what’s happening and where the story is taking place.
* To think about what has already happened to predict what might happen next.
* To expect to be surprised and to notice when a prediction is incorrect, so to keep track of the actual events of the story when reading on.
* To determine importance and retell the big events in sequence.
* To study characters feelings, actions and thoughts.
* To learn how to figure out the important lessons.

**Writing:** we will be finishing up “From Scenes to Series,” writing realistic fiction series books right before Spring Break.  Students will be starting “Writing Projects” after the break. The students will have a choice to branch out and work on Narrative, Opinion or Informational Writing. The students will start with all types of writing and then focus on one piece.

**In Word Study**: students will be finishing, Unit 4 Phonics – “Word Builders -Using vowel Teams to Build Big Words”. In this unit, we will develop a sense of flexibility when solving words with vowel teams, recognizing that: Some words have long-vowels sounds, represented by a vowel team, one vowel team can represent a number of different sounds, multiple vowel teams can sometimes represent the same sound, and students will continue to develop a bank of high-frequency words that can be used to learn more about words. We will be starting Unit 5, “Marvelous Bloopers” - Learning through wise mistakes. (Controlled R, ar, ir,er, and Capitalization)

**Math:** we are starting Unit 4 in Math, Two-digit addition and subtraction.  Students will be able to count by ones to extend a counting sequence to 120

* count by tens from any number to extend a counting sequence up to 120
* use models and write to represent equivalent forms of tens and ones to 100
* group objects to show numbers to 100 as tens and ones
* read and write numerals to represent a number of 100 to 110 objects
* use symbols <, >, and = to compare numbers to 100
* identify numbers that are 10 more or 10 less than a given number.

**Science:** we continue our second unit, Solids and Liquids.  The goal of the unit is to provide experiences that heighten students’ awareness of the physical world.  Matter, with which we interact, exists in 3 fundamental states: solid, liquid, and gas. In this unit, students will be experimenting with 2 of these states of matter, solids and liquids.  They are doing a great job of identifying, sorting, and exploring the different solids & liquids already.

**Social Studies:** We are continuing Unit 3, “Communities”. We will explore what a community is and how it plays a role in our lives and family’s lives.  Students will learn about different kinds of communities, goods and services within communities, community resources, NYC, and rules and laws in our community.