

# Miss Foster's First Grade Newsletter

October 2022

## Contact Miss Foster

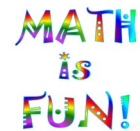
610-473-1726

[hfooster@boyertownasd.org](mailto:hfooster@boyertownasd.org)

<https://www.boyertownasd.org/Page/914>

## Classroom Website

I have lots of resources on my classroom website. I also keep the calendar up to date with our cycle day, specials, as well as the phonics skills we are working on each week so you're able to better support your student at home.



## Math Challenge

The first math challenge is due October 6th! You're welcome to send it back whenever your child is finished working on it. It is OPTIONAL, but we're really hoping to win the 1st grade trophy for the class with the most correct answers! Get more info about the challenge here:



## Snack Time



Everyday we have 10-15 minute snack time. Please remember to send in a HEALTHY snack with your child each day for them to enjoy during our snack time. Students will not be permitted to eat candy during snack time.



## Scholastic Reading Clubs

Scholastic reading clubs are a wonderful way to build both your home and our classroom library. Flyers will come home monthly and you will be able to place orders online or send your order with a check to school and I will submit it, but there are many more options when shopping online.

If you are surprising your child with books or if they are gifts, please let me know and I will send them home in a sealed envelope or leave them in the office for you to pick up.

**Class Code: GQ38V**

**Next Due Date: October 7th**

## Important Dates to Remember

- October 6th—MATH CHALLENGE #1 DUE
- October 7th—Book Orders Due
- October 10th—No School
- October 12th—Early Dismissal
- October 13th—Fire Prevention Day
- November 4th—No School
- November 7th—Picture Retakes



## Class DOJO



If you haven't signed up to receive reports from our online classroom behavior tool, class dojo, please do so in order to see how your child is behaving at school. If you need a new class code please contact me.

On Fridays, students with 10 or more points will shop for prizes. Prizes vary depending on points earned. Your child will bring his/her prize ticket home in a manila envelope and will be able to redeem it on the day listed on the front of the envelope. If you have any questions, please let me know. I truly appreciate your support!



## Read Every Day Folder

Recently, your child started to bring home a "Read Every Day folder. There will be 3 books in the folder daily that your child should read to you. There will also be a card to use to coach your child when struggling and if I have set a goal with your child it will be circled on the card. It is important that this folder comes back to school EVERY day so your child can confer with me and pick new books. If you have any questions please let me know.

## Thank You!

Thank you so much to all of you for a wonderful start to the school year! I am continually amazed by your children and am so encouraged for the remainder of the year!



# Academically Speaking

## Math



Throughout the beginning month of school, again we review number relationships that were learned in kindergarten. Now we have started our 1st grade math curriculum and we are learning about counting and comparing numbers, counting on, number bonds, finding a missing addend, solving story problems and adding within 10. We are using a Math Workshop model to ensure that all of the students are being instructed at their own pace and level. We will be learning how to play various math games to support our learning and are using technology to enhance, support and enrich our learning as well.

## Reading



In September, we stay busy reviewing many skills learned last year in Kindergarten. We have reviewed each letter of the alphabet, the sounds they make, and words that begin with them. This review period provides a strong base for us to build our phonics work upon in first grade.

Additionally, we're reviewing some power words from kindergarten. It is imperative that your child be able to recognize these words in 3 seconds or less because this allows them to spend less time decoding while reading and more time focusing on comprehension. Differentiated lists of power words for your child come home on Mondays. I have several fun ways to practice power words listed on my classroom website if you're looking for a more exciting way to practice them than just flashcards. We practice the words daily at school with sticker books where the students earn stickers for words mastered. Any words not mastered continue to be practiced daily with me.

Starting this week, your child will be introduced to 2 new phonics skills each week. The skills we are practicing are listed on the calendar on my classroom website and some practice words will come home on Wednesdays or Thursdays. Your child will be assessed on his/her ability to decode words that follow these patterns on Fridays and the results will come home in your child's test folder the following week.

Finally, we are learning about reading workshop. During reading workshop students select from authentic reading and writing choices, working independently toward personalized goals. During this time I also meet with small groups and individuals one-on-one to help the students practice and meet their goals as well. Allowing the students to choose from a variety of authentic reading and writing options produce productive, highly engaged students who are developing a love of literacy! The students self-select their activities each day from their Reading Workshop Menu. We have learned that "must-dos" on the menu are like choosing a dinner item from a restaurant menu and "can dos" are like the desserts.

## Homework

In first grade, your child's only homework is to read. Please make sure your child is reading for a minimum of 15-20 minutes a night, which can include your child listening to you read stories to him/her. Please record the minutes your child read on the monthly calendar that is sent home and return the calendar at the end of each month. Your child also brings home a list of power words each week that should be practiced daily. Your child will be assessed on his/her ability to recognize these words in 3 seconds or less a week after receiving them to practice.

