



May/June, 2010

In The First Place

## Upcoming Date

## May/June

May 6 - 1st Grade Chapel Coffee

## 'Word Wall Words'

May 10-14 – ERB Testing Week

Week 30: our, their, watch, because, door, us, should

May 20 - Lower School Fine Arts Festival 6:00pm

Week 31: room, pull, great, gave, does, car, ball

May 25– Field Trip

Week 32: sat, stay, each, ever, until, shout, mama

May 28–SEA Carnival 6:00pm

Week 33: use, turn, thought, pap, lot, blue, bath

May 31 – No School

June 2 - Moving Up Day 11:00am

June 3 - 1st grade Ice Cream Social 2:30pm

June 4 - Field Day/Last Day

## Literature

We have just started our poetry unit, which will take us through the next few weeks. The children will be exploring and creating many different types of poetry. At the end of the unit each child will receive a class poetry book, which will include different poems from all of our first grade friends!

## **Music**

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> for our annual Fine Arts Festival! Your children will be performing in the spring concert at 6:00, and may also choose to participate in our lower school talent show immediately following. Also at our Fine Arts Festival is our Art Show! Come and see our students' artwork on display in the hallways. More information will be coming out very shortly for this event. We hope that most of you can join us on May 20<sup>th</sup>!

## **World Cultures**

We will finish off the year with a fun unit on Japan. The students will learn about the geography, food, art, music, folk tales and language of Japan. We will also be studying various holidays and celebrations. The students will be creating traditional carp kites to celebrate Boy's Day and origami dolls in honor of Girl's Day. Thank you to all of the parents and volunteers for helping with the parties and volunteering to speak in the classroom. I appreciate all of your help and I know the kids have really enjoyed hearing your stories. It's been a great year!

## **Computer**

The first grade will use various websites to work on reinforcing mathematics skills. Students are using a website designed by the teacher to use links to "play" educational games practicing addition and coin counting skills. The students will also begin to utilize Microsoft Word to create documents about spring.

## **Phonics**

Our last unit focuses on endings, digraphs, and contractions.

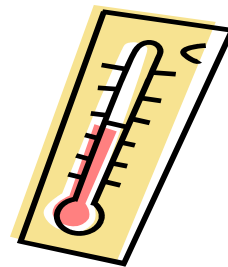
As time permits after this unit is complete, additional work in phonics will focus on the hard and soft sounds of **c** and **g**, various vowel combinations, the silent letters in **kn** and **wr**, and adding **s** or **es**.

## **P.E.**

St. Edmund's first graders will be participating in a variety of physical education units throughout the rest of the school year. We will follow the track and field unit with relay races and obstacle courses, designed to continue the development of motor skills and body control. Sport specific skills will be included in the relays and obstacle courses to give the students an opportunity to practice and improve upon these elements. Then we will have a base games unit that will give the students a chance to play kickball, tee ball, and mat ball. Finally, we will have Tennis and Lacrosse units that will introduce the sport and we will work to develop the skills needed to successfully play those games.

## **Science**

First grade will finish out the year completing the unit on "Air and Weather". We will continue to be meteorologists and chart the daily weather as well as measure temperature and rainfall. We will focus on exploring "Wind" and how it affects our weather and seasons. We will observe the evidence of wind speed using bubbles, pinwheels and anemometers. We will look at the effect of wind direction and speed on kites. Finally, we will learn how to graph the weather, looking for weather patterns, precipitation and changes in weather.



## **Art**

We will be looking at the color wheel and reviewing primary and secondary colors. We will also be spending some time outside sketching what we see in nature. Our final project will be based on van Gogh's famous Iris paintings. The students will learn how to observe a still life arrangement and then create a drawing based on their observations.

## REMINDERS

\*During the **week of May 10th** the 1st grade will be taking ERB tests. Please make sure your child gets a good night sleep and has a healthy breakfast each morning!



\*The 1st grade will be going to the Children's Museum on **Tuesday, May 25th**. We will need 4 parents to volunteer to chaperone. Please contact Mrs. Zapf or Mrs. Helfrick.



\*The 1st grade **does not** hold end of the year conferences. However, if there are any questions or concerns please contact your child's teacher to set up a meeting before the end of the year.

