

# Falcon Family News

Grade 1 ~ December 2018

## READING

In reading we are becoming Word Detectives and learning about the strategies that come with it:

- Notice a problem and stop to solve it
- Look closely at the word from start to end
- Use everything you know to solve hard words (check the picture, try it 2 ways, look at all parts of the word, check it, do a double check)
- Do a slow check by sliding your finger under the word

Every student should read and log their reading for 20 minutes every night. Have students retell the most important parts of the story in sequence.

## WRITING

In writing we are working on informational writing pieces, specifically "How To" stories. Your child should by the end of this unit be able to:

- write a "How To" informational story with steps, warnings, transition words, and action words
- check their punctuation
- spell more and more words correctly
- write twin sentences
- include a lead sentence to introduce their

## WORD WORK

Students will continue reviewing all letter sounds with a particular focus on short vowel sounds with additional initial and ending blends. They will also continue to review the spelling rules that accompany them and learn about -ng and -nk glued sounds (-ang, -ing, -ong, -ung, -ank, -ink, -onk, -unk). Students spend every Friday in word work centers making and breaking words and committing sight words to memory.

- Have students hunt for sight words in the text.
- Students should find words with short vowel sounds when they read

## MATHEMATICS

Students are exploring addition and subtraction word problems with numbers from 1-20. They will be identifying the whole, as well as missing parts. They will be using number sense to fluently add and subtract numbers within 20, as well as new math strategies, such as drawings, cubes, counters, 10 frames, decomposing, and number bonds.

- At home, choose a number of the day (1-20) and identify all the different ways to create that number by writing a number sentence ( $10+4=14$ ), drawing pictures, and or using words to explain your mathematical thinking.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

Students are exploring how families grow and change over time and the difference between life in the past and present.

- Discuss your family history by telling past stories to your children.
- Talk about your family's cultural heritage.

## SCIENCE

Students are exploring the use, patterns, and effects of the Earth and sun.

- When you are out and about talk to your child about the sun's purpose, as well as identify all the different things that make up the Earth.

## ARTS CONNECTIONS

PS 68 is participating again in the "Port Richmond Avenue Holiday Lights Performance" where they will be singing holiday songs. As well as the "Port Richmond Holiday Window Display" and our school's "3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest."

## ELLs

We will...

Take turns when speaking and listening  
Remember to use our new reading habits to read harder books  
Find and read harder words in our environment  
Learn and use new writing skills across many pages  
Plan our writing

We can practice at home by taking turns when speaking and listening, studying and using our sight words, coming up with our own new sight words, reading to others at home, reading magazines and newspapers, not just our books, writing a summary of what we read to share with our family, writing a summary of our day for others to read.

## WELLNESS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION and SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

We are learning how to connect our minds with our body. We continue to use Brain Power Wellness and Get Ready to Learn Yoga to help us grow into strong, resilient learners. We will also be starting Kids Care Clubs through Cloud 9 and connecting it with our F.L.Y Matrix.