

# Falcon Family News

Grade 1 ~ January 2019

## READING

In reading we are about to become Word Detective graduates, so we are taking an even closer look at tricky words by using our knowledge of letters, sounds, and words to read with the help of these strategies:

- Break long words into smaller parts.
- Pay attention to the beginning of the word by looking out for blends.
- Break the ending off the word (-s, -ing, -ed)
- Look out for vowel teams (ai, oo, ee, ou, oa, ea)
- Use parts of words you know.
- Watch out for unusual words. (can't, I'm, into, outside)

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 opinion writing pieces, in which students introduce a topic of interest, such as a book, food, place, etc. Your child should by the end of this unit be able to:

- Include a lead sentence to introduce their opinion and grab the reader's attention.
- Supply 3 or more accurate reasons to validate their opinion.
- Provide some sense of closure.
- Revise their writing by checking their capitalization, organization, punctuation, and spelling.

## WORD WORK

Students will continue reviewing all letter sounds with a particular focus on short vowel sounds with additional initial and ending blends, as well as glued sounds. They will also learn about:

- New letter rules, such as magic silent e and y as a vowel (makes the long e and long i sound)
- How to decode double syllable words (VCCV and VCCCV patterns).

Students will continue to spend every Friday in word work centers making and breaking words and committing sight words to memory.

## MATHEMATICS

Students are continuing to explore operations of algebraic thinking by looking at addition and subtraction word problems with numbers from 1-20. They will continue to identify the whole, as well as missing parts, and learn about the commutative and associative property. 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 continue to 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 continuing exploring how families grow and change over time and the difference between life in the past and present. We will also be honoring Martin Luther King Jr. this month by learning about all of his contributions.

- Compare your family history to today by telling past stories.
- Discuss your family's cultural heritage.

## SCIENCE

Students are participating in STEAM academy, which includes Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. Our first project includes the importance of recycling.

- Talk about the important ways your family can recycle at home maybe by creating different recycle bins, or turning recycled objects into new useful materials.

## ARTS CONNECTIONS

We will be studying the art of collage by focusing on the artist Eric Carle, as well as participating in our school's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual College Themed 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 continuing Kids Care Clubs through Cloud 9 and connecting it with our F.L.Y Matrix, as well as begin our Move To Improve program.