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Social Studies: We have had school wide booster lessons on our classroom and school expectations. Some of the lessons were on body basics, line basics, playground expectations, hallway expectations, etc. We earned quite a few classroom bees. We only have a few more to go until our next celebration day!

Word Work: The words we worked on this week were: each, made, more. We focused on the a-e and o-e patterns. We will begin individualized spelling lists next week. Please be on the lookout for information on Monday and the words on your child’s busy week.

Math: We began our number scrolls!! This is a very exciting moment in first grade! The students began completing blank number grids starting with 0 and working their way up. Students are noticing patterns with numbers and place value as they complete each grid. Students are able to work as their own pace over the next few weeks to see how far they can go. Ask your child about patterns they are noticing or how far they are in their progress.

Writing: With the reading and writing connection students were discovering the importance of adding details in their stories so that when a reader is reading their writing they can make a picture in their minds or feel how the writer was feeling. My example was about making a snowman. Students stated asking: Where were you? How big was the snowman? How did it feel when you were pushing the huge snowball? These were very important details that I needed to add to my writing in order to make a picture in their minds.

**Reading**: The students were working on visualizing while reading. Thoughtful readers create mental images supported by the five senses. During discussions readers may say- “I am picturing…”, “I feel…”, “I can smell/taste…” This is an important comprehension strategy as students are reading, especially as texts get progressively more difficult and there are less illustrations/picture clues on a page. Have conversations with your child as they are reading about how they are feeling or what they are picturing in their minds when they read.

Mrs. Fontaine’s Classroom News

Jan. 2-4, 2013