



January News

Dear Parents:

All is well in first grade! We are still getting used to being back in school after our time off from the holidays. I hope you had a relaxing vacation and enjoyed extra time with your child. Now it's time to get back to business!

Handwriting- We will continue writing lowercase letters.

Phonics/Spelling- Here are some rules: **Long-Vowel Rule 1:** If a word has two vowels, the first vowel is usually long and the second vowel is silent-rain, kite, cane, jeep, and boat. **Long-Vowel Rule 2:** If a word has one vowel and it comes at the end of the word, the vowel is usually long- we and go. **Y as a Vowel Rule:** 1) If y is the only vowel at the end of a one syllable word, y has the sound of long I- fly and by. 2) If y is the only vowel at the end of a word of more than one syllable, y usually has the sound of long e- silly and baby.

Religion- The children will understand how to live the two great laws of love and be inspired to go to Jesus the Good Shepherd for forgiveness when they have done wrong.

Reading- One of the most important goals to improve reading is interest. Some students are excited about reading and don't seem to get frustrated. With other students, it is a struggle to even get them to pick up a book. What can you do? You can take a trip to the public library and/or designate a family reading time in your night time routine. Developing interest is one of the first steps to becoming a reader.

Math- We will be concentrating on patterns and numbers to 100. The students will explore tens and ones to 100, even and odd, and counting by 2's, 5's and 10's. Please make sure your child practices math facts at home. We do Mad Minute once a week and all the children should be completing 10-15 facts in 60 seconds. There are still some children who are struggling with their basic facts. Please remember Fact Dash is a great resource.

Stay warm!

Mrs. Rizzo