



Dear Parents,

Next week, I will be starting to recognize two “Star Students” each day. My goal is to recognize similarities and differences of students in the classroom and help each student get to know himself or herself better and develop positive self-esteem. I will be letting students know the day before that they will be the next day’s “Star Students.” I am also asking the Star Students to prepare (with your help) a “Getting to Know Me Bag.” Please help your child:

- ***Decorate a paper bag with his or her name on it. (Please have your child write it.)***
- ***Put something in the bag from each of the following categories:***
 - 1. Something they are proud of (a medal, a picture of themselves riding a two-wheeler, etc.)***
 - 2. Something they like to collect***
 - 3. Something of their choice that tells about themselves***

Everything should fit into the bag. Please send it along when it is your child’s turn to be Star Student. (Look for a yellow notice to come home the night before it is your child’s turn!) We will enjoy finding out more about each other while we celebrate each other’s similarities and differences! Thank you for your assistance with this project.

Small group reading instruction is going well. Last month, your child began to bring home a book that they have read in small group to practice and read to you. It comes in a special bag. Please encourage your child to read it often. When not being read, remind them to keep the book in its bag and in their backpack so they have it at school when it is time to trade books. (Trading happens approximately once a week.)

As we move into this new year, we are learning the short vowel sounds of a and i. By segmenting a word into its sounds, we can hear which vowel appears in the middle. We check our work by “pushing the sounds” (saying all the sounds) in a word. Ask your child to show you!

In math, we are practicing counting by 1’s and 10’s. We are looking forward to our 100th day of school when we will have a 100 celebration (Shhh!) This should happen around Feb. 7, depending on snow days. Thanks for encouraging your child to count!

Reminders: Monday, January 16—No School--Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Friday, January 20—Flood Make-up Day We do have school.

Wednesday, Jan. 25—Early Dismissal Day PM K meets 11:35-1:15

EDK meets 8:55-1:15

Thursday, Jan. 26—Wear your favorite team jersey day!

Tuesday, Jan. 31—Spring Picture Day

Sincerely, Sue Gehman