

## Home-work

This is where you will generally find information regarding homework assignments. Since I am not starting homework this week, I am asking that you have your child read for at least 20 minutes each night.

## What's Happening?

See what's coming up!

**Thurs., Sept. 1** – 1:32 Dismissal

**Mon., Sept. 5** – No School

**Wed., Sept. 14** – Picture Day

**Wed., Sept. 21** – Guest Teacher in the P.M.

**Friday, Sept. 23** - Homecoming

## SPECIALS

Monday - Day 5- Art

Tuesday - Day 6 - PE/SS

Wednesday- Day 1 -Music

Thursday - Day 2 - Media

Friday - Day 3 - PE/SS

### Writing -

*We are implementing a new writing curriculum this year, Lucy Calkins Units of Study. This week we read a mentor text in which the author wrote about a "Small Moment" in his life. We identified the words and details the author used to stretch out the event to help us see, feel, hear, smell, and taste what the author did in that instance. Small Moments are not "visiting grandma" but rather "making cookies with grandma" or "grandma's basement." The children will be writing about Small Moments in their lives.*

## Classroom Notes

**READING:** I will not be starting reading "officially" for another week or so. Right now we are reviewing what the expectations are for Read to Self, Word Work, Writing, and Listen to Reading. They will be working to build their STAMINA in each of these areas. We discussed how to pick a "good fit" book when reading and talked about the 3 ways we can read a book. We are also reviewing some basic skills they should have learned in first grade, such as, long and short vowel sounds, consonant blends and digraphs. We also discussed some of the reading strategies they will be using this year, such as Predict/Infer, Summarizing, Questioning, and Monitoring and Clarifying. During our reading time I am also meeting with students for individual assessments.

**MATH:** We jumped right into math this week. Chapter 1, Number Concepts, has the children understanding what is meant by an odd and even number. See if your child can tell you how they know that 8 is even, or 11 is odd. They also worked with place value, and how they can tell the value of a digit. Next week we will be begin our daily work with basic number facts, Minute Math.

**Science:** We began our first science investigation this week, Solids and Liquids. Our first investigation had the children looking at a group of solid objects and listing the properties of those items. They had to observe the items closely and use their sense of sight and touch to learn about the objects. We learned some new words like "flexible" and "rigid". Have your child tell you four words that would describe the properties of a tube. We then moved onto what solid objects are made of. We looked at the same set of objects and but this time focused in on what material(s) they were made from. We found out that some objects are made from more than one material. Next week we will be looking at a set of new objects and sorting them according to their properties.