



Fundations: We will continue our review of letters and Fundations routines in Unit 1. Use the Home Support Pack (from Open House) to practice/review letter sounds. If your child is well versed in the letter sounds, take time to practice correct letter formation and neat handwriting. Remember letters always go top-down, never bottom-up. We have a lot of writing to do in first grade, so the neater, the better!

Reading: "What is a question?" will be our focus for this week. Students will know what kinds of words we use to start questions and understand that a question is a sentence that needs an answer. Readers think about questions they have as they read a book. Students will continue building stamina for Read to Self. This is the first step towards learning our Daily 5 stations. We will practice using our good reading habits to be independent readers for longer periods of time.

Writing: The students will be able to explain why it is important to practice writing everyday. Just like in reading we need to build our stamina in order to be able to write for longer periods without losing focus. We will discuss different types of writing such as letters, lists, stories, cards, and books. Students may use pictures or inventive spelling to represent their thoughts.

Math: Our first math topic will be on understanding addition and subtraction. We will begin with solving addition problems and finding two addends to make a number. We will also continue to review counting and number writing. We will review how we can show numbers in different ways. Students well versed in addition, can be challenged to improve their speed and accuracy. Make a game out of timing them on facts up to 10!

Social Studies: We show P for Prepared when we are in a positive mindset for learning. Growth mindset research shows that we are all capable of growing our intelligence no matter our current ability. It just takes a willingness to challenge ourselves and practice. We won't grow if we don't try. Instead of saying, "I can't do this!", we can say "I can do this. I just need more practice." Think about ways you can encourage a positive attitude at home! Later this week we will focus on the R for RESPECT! Respect is a big concept, but the easiest way to be respectful is by using good manners.

Reminders: (please see the back)

If you need to reach me by email, please contact me at ehavel@scsmustangs.org or send me a Remind message. Our class website is whitney1h.weebly.com

Reminders:

- This week is **WHITE**. Our class will have art all week.
- First graders will have substitutes this week on Monday and Thursday while we give the AIMSweb assessments. We will be in the building, but meeting with students one-on-one. We will discuss these assessments at parent teacher conferences.
- Library books are due back each Thursday. Please remember your book so that you can get a new one!
- Show your Whitney **PRIDE** and wear your new (blue) Whitney shirts this Friday!
- Green folders should come every afternoon and be returned to school each morning (even if they are empty).
- Reading logs (calendar format) will come home on September 1st. Students will be expected to keep track of their reading time for the whole month! Please keep these logs in the home folder so they are not misplaced. Let me know if you have any questions. These calendars should be returned to school every Monday (in your Home folder).
- If you have not completed your school forms via your child's PASS account, please log in and do so. It is called the 2022-2023 Update. If you need your PASS account information, please contact the office.
- Please see Mrs. Hawk's newsletter for a link to join PTA. You do not have to attend meetings to be a member. They would love to have your support!
- Water bottles are allowed during the day but should be completely closeable (screw on lid).
- Your student may bring a **snack** to eat in the morning during breakfast. Please pack his/her snack separate from his/her lunch to save time digging through lunches! He/she should be able to manage the snack on his/her own. Thank you!
- Your child should be practicing his/her **student ID** if it is new to him/her. This serves as a lunch number and a computer logon.
- Students will be needing **headphones** for Chromebook use. If you have not yet sent a pair, please do so. Headphones that go over the ears seem to work much better than earbuds for our first graders.
- Our classroom can be chilly with the air conditioning on. If your child tends to be cold, you may want to send a zip-up sweatshirt or sweater to keep in his/her backpack. Please make sure he/she can put it on and take it off easily.
- Take some time to practice **shoe tying** with your first grader if needed.