

# First Grade Adventure Guide

December 12, 2022

**Fundations:** This week we will finish Unit 8 and complete the assessment (as long as we can fit it in the schedule). Continue to practice reading and spelling words with blends and digraph blends. It's important for students to separate and identify each sound in the blend. Make it a good habit to reread (tap the sounds) in the word after you have written it. Does it have each sound? Complete activities in your home support pack for practice. Please return finished packets.

**Reading:** It's time to board the Polar Express! We will use this classic book to learn how to make predictions about texts as well as review important story elements. We will then use both fiction and nonfiction texts to learn about how Christmas and other holidays are celebrated all over the world. When reading at home, review whether a book is fiction or nonfiction. For fiction, practice retelling the parts of a story. For nonfiction, try to think of all things you learned about your topic.



**Writing:** This week our writing will primarily take place as we learn about holidays around the world. Encourage your child to write over break using good habits such as capitalization, punctuation, space between words and sounding out words to spell. Spelling patterns that we have learned in Foundations should be applied to daily writing tasks.

**Math:** We will wrap up our work with subtraction strategies before winter break. We will complete our chapter review on Monday and take our test on Tuesday. Please look over the review (pages 203-206) with your child and practice any "tricky" problems. Pages 199-202 also review the skills we have learned. We will not begin a new topic until after break.



**Social Studies:** The Polar Express is not just for Christmas! This week the Polar Express will take us on a journey around the world! Students will learn how Christmas and other holidays are celebrated across cultures and geographical locations. How are holidays and traditions the same or different? How can these celebrations be traced back to long ago? Talk to your child about your own family traditions.

Reminders: (please see the back)

If you need to reach me by email, please contact me at [ehavel@scsmustangs.org](mailto:ehavel@scsmustangs.org) or send me a Remind message. Our class website is [whitney1h.weebly.com](http://whitney1h.weebly.com)

#### Reminders:

- We have gym class week. Students will need tennis shoes.
- Friday is pajama day! Please make sure pajamas are school appropriate and students are recess ready!
- Our Winter Party is Friday afternoon. Thank you in advance to the parents who are coming in and to those who are sending items! (Please do not send in any extra treats unless you have been assigned for the party.)
- Winter break begins for students on December 19th. We return to school on January 3rd.
- Please continue to read and use Lexia over break. Students should try to complete 50 minutes (or more) each week. Check our class website for links to other online reading options. Please return December calendars when we return to school.
- *I wish you a Merry Christmas, the happiest of holidays and a nice winter break!*

#### Repeat items:

- Green folders should come every afternoon and be returned to school each morning (even if they are empty).
- Reading logs (calendar format) will be checked each Monday. Students with marked logs receive a sticker and green dojo for the week. If you forget, please send the next day.
- Library books are due back each Thursday. Please remember your book so that you can get a new one!
- 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). *Please do not send juice or soda, unless it's to be taken to lunch.*
- 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** number.
- Take some time to practice **shoe tying** with your first grader if needed.