

October 13, 2017

Dear Families,

First grade fun this week!

**Language Arts:**

- We began reading groups this week. Along with the Reading Workshop model of teaching reading, we will also have groups to address the needs of all students at all levels. The title 1 teachers, Mrs. Derosier and Mr. Burriss, will help by taking small groups as well. Groups will be held Monday and Tuesday each week.
- We learned about digraphs in Foundations. Students learned that a digraph is two letters together that make one sound. They are, sh, th, wh, ck and ch.
- We learned that ck comes only at the end of words after a short vowel

**Math:**

- We began unit 2 and have focused on instantly recognizing dots on dominoes and dice
- We focused on grouping dots together and using strategies we know to add the dots together rather than counting by 1's
- We solved and wrote story problems using tens frames and unifix cubes
- We continue to collect pattern blocks and record the data on the Data Collection Graph
- We are learning to write number sentences comparing two numbers using the greater than, less than and equal signs

**Farm Day Fun!!**

What an amazing day Farm Day was at WRS! Going into Farm Day each year I always know it's a great day, but I never remember just HOW GREAT it really is! The kids just love seeing the animals and are always exemplifying amazing White River School manners. Here are some of the awesome things your child experienced today:

- Oxen
- Sheep
- Goats
- Guinea hens
- Rabbits
- Cows
- Horses
- Chickens
- Ice cream making
- Maple products
- Apples and applesauce
- Apple press
- Vegetable stand

- Hay ride
- Alpacas

We are so lucky to live in a community where farmers spend their day with us and teach our children about the importance of farming. We all had a great day!

### **Gifts and Toys:**

I have noticed an increase of toys coming into school. Please know that anything they bring into school is their responsibility. Toys are not to be shared or given to a friend, even if both children agree. Too many recess disagreements happen over toys being brought from home. I prefer toys to stay at home, but am not saying they can't be brought in. Use your best judgement when your child requests to bring something in. Pokemon cards and Fidget Spinners are not allowed at all.

### **Vision/Hearing Screening:**

All students had their vision screened on Tuesday. Next Tuesday their hearing will be screened. Should your child need a follow up with a doctor, a letter will be coming home from the school nurse. Be on the lookout for that.

### **Reminders/Upcoming Events:**

- If you would like to donate something to our classroom, soft tissues are always welcome along with Clorox Wipes for the upcoming cold season!
- October 15th-Color Run at Max Field
- October 26th-Picture Retakes
- Parent Teacher conferences are Nov. 2-3. The 2nd is an early release day (12:50 dismissal) and the 3rd school is not in session for kids.

Email or call with any questions or concerns you have!  
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