

1J News

September 12, 2008

Today is the 9th day of first grade.

This week my first grade colleagues and I rotated our classes and presented science activities to each class. The focus of these lessons was on the **skills** of making predictions, making observations and recording their observations. Ask your child these questions to learn more about the activities we "investigated":

What happened when you dropped sugar grains or a sugar cube into water?

What happened when you dropped a chocolate chip into different liquids?

What did you find that a magnet was attracted to?

What did you find that a magnet will attract?

What happened to solids when they were put into warm water?

Every day the children and I read a chapter or two from Charlotte's Web by E. B. White. We just read about Wilbur trying to spin a web - he was not very successful! Throughout the year we will read several chapter books together - an fun activity for home too.

Proper handwriting involves correct letter formation, pencil grip, and posture. Please encourage all three whenever your child does writing at home. At Back to School Night I will provide you with examples of how each letter should be formed. Please post these examples in an accessible place at home - a family bulletin board and the refrigerator door are handy locations.

Today the children met their 5H reading buddies and they spent

time getting to know each other. The fifth graders wrote letters of introduction and the first graders drew pictures. Meeting with a reading buddy is such a valuable experience for all the children. It gives the first graders a chance to listen to more stories and practice their social skills with good role models. The fifth graders take their roles as the older reading buddies seriously and work to help the younger children. It is a real win-win situation.

Looking Ahead

Friday, September 12 - Ice Cream Social, 6:00pm - I hope many of you are able to join the Hunnewell community this evening!

Wednesday, September 17 - Back to School Night,

K-Grade 2, 7:20-7:50pm If you are not able to join us on this evening, please let me know and I would be happy to send home all the information that is available for parents.

Friday, September 19 - School Picture Day!!

Tuesday, September 30 - No school - Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, October 9 - No school - Yom Kippur

Monday, October 13 - No school - Columbus Day

Friday, October 31 - Halloween parade, 8:45-9:30

Tuesday, November 4 - Noon dismissal - Fall Conferences

Tuesday, November 11 - No school - Veterans Day

Friday, November 14 - Hunnewell Sock Hop

Thursday & Friday, November 27 & 28 - No school - Happy Thanksgiving

Monday, December 1 - No school - Professional Day

Tuesday, December 23 - School dismissed at 3:05 for December vacation

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