



October 1, 2016

Dear First Grade Parents,

Happy Fall!!! We have many exciting activities planned in October. On Oct.13, 2016 we have a pumpkin picking trip scheduled. On October 28, 2016, we will have our first Literacy Character Parade. Please help your child pick his/her favorite character from a story to dress up as for the parade. You can create or buy a costume for the Character Parade that depicts the story character. Challenge your child to be creative and make the costume together! Our goal is to get our students excited about reading (not to buy an additional Halloween costume!)

Each month you will be receiving a monthly curriculum letter which is designed to give you an overview of the units of study in your child's grade. Our hope is they will make it easier for you to discuss and support your child's learning at home. The best way to do this is by staying connected with your child's school. Please visit our school website: [www.psis30pta.org](http://www.psis30pta.org) for important reminders and resources throughout the school year. Please also make sure to read with your child every night. Reading together for at least 20 minutes a day is the most important gift you can give your child!

Reading	First grade will retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson. Use narrative language to describe characters, setting and plot. Compare and contrast two versions of the same fable. With assistance categorize and organize facts from a story. Identify real life connections between words.
Writing	Personal Narrative: First grade will recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use words to signal event order, and provide some sense of closure.
Fundation	First grade will receive instruction in our phonics-based Foundations program daily for 30 minutes. Students repeat the letter-keyword-sounds, vowel extension, sky write, and echo letter formation on tablets. They identify CVC words, long and short vowel sounds, identify syllables, and connect words to sentences and sentences to big ideas/concepts. Students will learn penmanship and write in clear sentences.
Math	First grade will learn the concept skills and strategies of addition and subtraction. They will model adding to, add in any order, use concrete objects to put together numbers to 10, use addition to check subtraction, use related facts, add 3 numbers, model taking apart, and use pictures to add, as well as subtracting two digit numbers.
Science	First grade will learn about the characteristics of organisms developed from their basic concepts of living and nonliving things. As students investigate the continuity of life, emphasis should be placed on how animals reproduce their own kind. Students make observations about how the offspring compare to one another and to their parents. Students will identify each animal's different structures that serve different functions in growth, survival, and reproduction.
Social Studies	Develop concept understanding of family rules, family diversity, family traditions & celebrations, diverse communities, & monuments that commemorate a community's history including resources, jobs and economics.