



First Grade

# News

What's Happening in  
Mrs. Gascon's Classroom

9/28/12



Issue 2: One Month Down



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## What a Great Month!

It has been such a great first month of school! In math and in reading, we are learning many centers which help us build our skills. In social studies, we are learning about what makes each child in our classroom special. We are also learning how we are a part of many communities, including our school, town, state, country and earth. For Phonics, we are focusing on breaking down words and "secret coding" them. If you are unfamiliar with coding words, see the parent note at the bottom of the phonics homework. I'd be happy to talk with you about the "secret code" at conferences! In writing, your children are filling the pages of their Writer's Notebooks with detailed pictures and stories of their life. These notebooks and their published pieces will be available for you to see at conferences. A final note, as the weather gets cooler, you may want to send a dress code appropriate sweater to keep at school. Thanks for your support from home, I can't wait to see you at conferences!

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## Mrs. Gascon's Reminders

### Homework

Please remember to sign the homework page each night. This helps me know that you have gone through it with your child.

### Snack

Please remember to send a *healthy* snack to school each day!

### Lunch Money

If your child will be ordering any lunch or milk during the week, the lunch ticket is due on Monday!

### Spelling List

The first spelling list will be available in the FISH binder on Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. The words will be tested on Friday. Practice, practice!!

## What is Daily 5?

At this point in the year, you may have heard your child talking about Daily 5. If you haven't, you will be hearing about it soon! Daily 5 is a reading program where students are given five different reading activities to choose from while I am pulling small groups. The choices are Read to Self, Read to Someone, Work on Writing, Work with Words, and Listen to Reading. For the past three weeks, we have been learning the routines for this program and we have almost covered them all! In the next couple weeks, we will put all of the steps together and begin reading groups. I will send a newsletter home to let you know when you should expect to see leveled readers coming home in book bags. Check out the website for photos of your child reading and Daily 5 in action!

## Odds and Ends

### Library

Each Thursday, our class has the opportunity to visit the school library. Our library is full of great fiction and non-fiction stories. It is always interesting to see what books the kids choose. All books are due back on Thursday, but you are welcome to send them in any time before.

### Halloween Party

Just as a heads up for anyone who may want to volunteer for the Halloween Party. We will be having the party on Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> around 2:15. I'll be sending a special newsletter regarding the party which will also include a volunteer sign up.

### "I Am Special" Assignment

I'm looking forward to seeing your "I Am Special Book." All books should be returned no later than Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.