“Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us, or we find it not.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

From the desk of Mrs. Talcott:

Our Halloween party is Tuesday, Oct. 31! We are looking forward to a great time! Also – the first grade teachers say a BIG thank you to the Halloween party volunteers. **Thank you** for your time and generosity!

Our school costume parade will begin at 1:30. (you are welcome to attend!) with the class parties following. The school district requests that students wear costumes of a **non-violent nature** for their classroom party. Students are not required to wear a costume. The **costumes cannot have weapons and blood with them**. Students may wear a mask but if it is not appropriate or safe, they will have to remove it. NO aerosol cans for hair spray or hair color are to be brought to school due to health issues. If your child is wearing face paint/makeup, please send them to school ready to go! The parties are a time of fun and enjoyment. Games and treats will be provided.

The cold weather has shown up! First graders spend at least 20 minutes outside. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather! **If your child cannot independently zip their jacket, put on their mittens, put on boots, etc. please practice at home.** Also...please put names or initials on everything, it is so easy to lose things and so many things look the same!

This week in Reading/Unit 1 Review and Test

- Unit 1 benchmark test – your child will read two stories; one is fiction and one is non-fiction. They will be tested on how well they can retell stories. They will also be tested on phonics. Since this is the first Unit test of the year, it is also a teaching opportunity.
- High Frequency words: Please practice any words that are not yet mastered (check the list that came home on Friday.) Your child also needs to review words to assure mastery.
- Phonics focus: more review! Especially those pesky short vowels 😊
- Decodable readers – no new ones this week. The Journeys book will come home to enjoy and practice.
- Spelling: No new words this week.
- Writing: We are working on sentence structure. We are also working on handwriting. After we finish up our scary stories, we will write about 'How to Carve a Pumpin.'
• Library class for first grade is **Wednesday**, library check out day is **Monday**. We encourage students to check out one book they can read on their own (or with a little help) and one book to have read to them. Students can keep the books all week to read and reread!

**This week in Math/Chapter 3, Develop Subtraction Concepts**

- **Vocabulary** includes *difference, minus, subtract and subtraction sentence.*
- The chapter stresses **how to subtract** as well as the problems themselves. Subtraction seems to be a more difficult concept than addition for most first graders. We will focus on what it means to have less, to take some away, how many are left and how many more. Students will be expected to draw a picture to solve subtraction sentences; for example if the problem is $5 - 3 = 2$, your child will draw 5 circles and then cross out 3. They will also have to determine whether the question in the problem is asking them to add or to subtract, a challenge to learn!

*Please review the papers that come home with your child, play games, count money and talk about numbers in every day experience. Your input will help your child understand that numbers are a life skill and not just a ‘school’ task.*

**This week in Science/Social Studies/Health/Character Ed**

- Scholastic News
- What is a friend

Mrs. Talcott’s voicemail 477-3236 x295       Email talcoli@hayfield.12.mn.us

To contact Mrs. Talcott: school voicemail 477-3236 x295 Email talcoli@hayfield.k12.mn.us

**Thank you, Mrs. Talcott**