

FIRST GRADE NEWS

NOVEMBER 2020



A note from your teachers...

Happy Fall to All!

Wow, can you believe this is our 9th week of virtual school?

It seems like only yesterday we started.

We are so proud of all our first-grade students, who have been working hard and learning the on-line system.

They are becoming so independent!

Please continue to have your child access BCPS One and complete their work by themselves.

We greatly appreciate all the help from our parents, grandparents, and care givers. It truly does take a village to raise a child.



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Dates to Remember

- 11/2 – 11/13 CTES Scholastic Online Book Fair, use this link: <https://www.scholastic.com/bf/chesapeakeerracees1>
- 11/3 No School, Election Day
- 11/4 Full Instructional Day (follow Tuesday's special area classes)
- Grade 5 – 11/6 Magnet Applications Due
- 11/11 3 Hour Early Day for Students; Veterans' Day
- 11/13 End of First Marking Period; Full Day of School
- 11/25 Full Instructional Day (follow Thursday's special area classes)
- 11/26 and 11/27 No School, Thanksgiving Holiday
- 11/30 Report Cards Available
- PK – 12/1 No School, Conference Day
- 12/2 No School for Students, Conference Day

What We Are Learning

ELA: In Unit 1 & 2, we worked on the following listening comprehension strategies: using the words and illustrations/photographs to *visualize* what is happening in a story *and asking and answering questions* before we read, while we are reading, and after we read. We learned that being able to *retell* the story in our own words by identifying the characters, the setting, and the events helps us better understand the texts. We have also learned about different text features and why authors include them in their writing – bold print, labels, and photographs. In Unit 3, we will be continuing with various reading comprehension strategies, including *making and confirming predictions* and *rereading* a text for clarification. Some other text features we will explore are captions, lists, and maps.

Phonics: We began the year doing a quick review of all the letters and sounds. In Unit 1 & 2, we have been learning sounds and the different spellings of those sounds. We are segmenting CVC words and blending them back together to read the word. We have practiced isolating and segmenting initial and final consonant sounds. We are identifying and segmenting words that contain consonant blends in the beginning and ending of words. For the next unit, we will continue to manipulate sounds, and focus on different spellings of sounds in words.

In Units 1 & 2, we have introduced the following high-frequency words: is, up, have, I, a, there, can, on, did, it, had, him, said, in, has, at, call, look, was, what, got, big, all, if, to, get, ask, of, he, his, and just. Please take note of these words and practice them with your child. In Unit 3, we will introduce the following high-frequency words – help, six, then, this, that, jump, for, out, little, when, and are.

Math: We are finishing up Unit 2 and about to start Unit 3: Adding, Subtracting, Counting and Comparing. This unit encourages student's mastery of key number facts and strategies for single digit addition and subtraction. The number rack will be used to help see number combinations, find the sum of two numbers, and compare two numbers to find the differences. We will also develop place value understanding, solve addition combinations to 20, and use Unifix cubes to develop an understanding of the difference model of subtraction.

Social Studies: We are finishing up Unit 1: Geography Basics. Students were introduced to basic geography skills including map elements, landforms, man-made features and relative locations. Students will be asked to locate places using these geographic tools.

Health: Unit 2: A Healthier Me! Students will demonstrate an understanding of the following; ways to promote dental health, ways various exercises keep the body healthy, school health care workers and how they help, healthy food choices from each of the food groups and why they are good for the body.

Science: Unit 2: Sound Solutions. In this unit students will look at how animals communicate with sounds. They will learn how sound is made and will be asked to explain what causes it. Students will create a device that transmits sound over a distance.

Reminders

Attendance: Thank you to all the students who are joining our Meets on time and on a regular basis. It is important for your child to be present during whole group and small group instruction throughout the day. If you are having internet problems, please send a message to let us know.

Assignments: Assignments are given daily for your child to complete. Please try to get these done on that day so you do not get overwhelmed at the end of the quarter. Be sure to regularly check your child's grade report for any missing assignments. These need to be turned in prior to the end of the marking period, which is November 13th. The primary grading scale is CD: Consistently Demonstrates, P: Progressing, and N: Needs Improvement.

If you are having any difficulties accessing BCPS One, Schoology, Digital Content or Instructional Content to find your child's assignments PLEASE let us know.

Google Meet Etiquette

Throughout the day your child has independent work and break times. This is the time for them to get a snack. There should be no eating during whole group or small group instruction. Please be sure to limit outside distractions, like televisions or radios during Meets.



Raz Super Stars All Time Top Earners



**Genevieve N.
Sophia S.
Bryan J.
Lucas K.
Avani O.
Annika D.**

**WOO HOO!!!
Keep up the great work**

On-Line Resources

Raz Plus: This is a leveled program to give practice with reading and comprehension skills that your child should be accessing for at least 20 minutes per day.

First in Math: This is a leveled program to build fluency with math skills, including basic facts and solving word problems that your child should be accessing for at least 15 minutes per day.

Starfall: This is an optional educational website that offers fun games for phonics and math support.

Once again, parents you have been instrumental in the success of virtual learning.

Thank you for all you do!

