



ORANGE CITY ELEMENTARY NEWS

January 2020

January Activities at Orange City Elementary

5th Grade Chorus Concert

The 5th grade chorus has been working hard preparing for their annual concert. This year's concert will be held on **Thursday, January 16th at 7:00 PM**. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Report Cards

Report Cards for the 2nd quarter will be sent home on **Friday, January 17th**.

Please keep an eye open for these reports on your child's progress.

Welcome Back

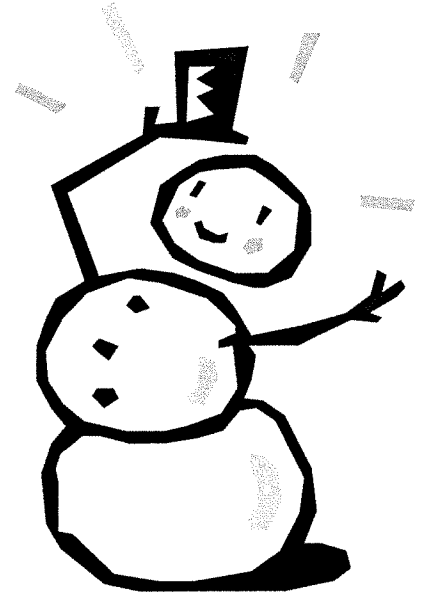
Normal class schedules will resume on **Thursday, January 2nd, 2020**.

End of the 2nd Quarter

The end of the second quarter and the first semester of school is **Friday, January 10th**.

Teacher In-service day

There is no school on Monday, Jan. 13th for a teacher in-service.



Dates to Remember in January

January 2nd– School resumes

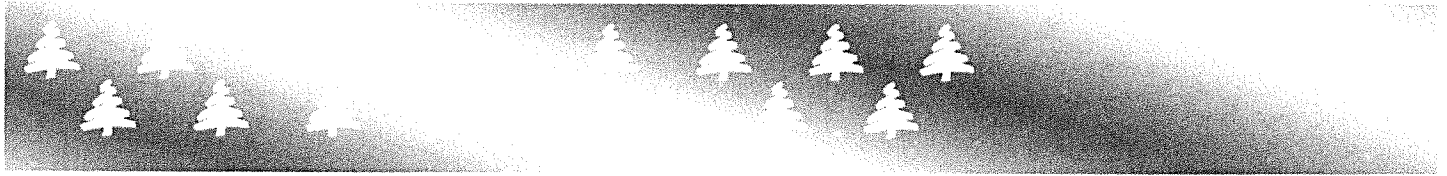
January 13th– No school –Teacher In-service day

January 16th– 5th grade Chorus Concert 7 pm

January 24th– Early Dismissal 1:15 and 1:25 pm

Gingerbread Houses Were A Big Hit

A big thank you to all the parents, college students, and other volunteers that helped the first graders build their gingerbread houses. Over sixty houses were built in less than an hour which is amazing. The students always enjoy this yearly event and by the looks of things so did all the people helping. We sincerely appreciate all of you who took time to help us with this project. Also, a big thank you to the first grade teachers for organizing such a neat event.



Reading Strategy of the Month

January

Fix-it Up Strategies

Fix-it Up Strategies is our fourth reading strategy. As readers, we use these strategies whenever we come across unfamiliar words or concepts when reading.

As children read, they "listen" to themselves. When something doesn't sound right, your child needs to figure out the problem. Teach your child to stop and fix it up. This strategy is sometimes called self-monitoring. Help your second grader "fix up" problems by using the following strategies:

- 1. Stop and reread.*
- 2. Ask what is confusing.*
- 3. Read ahead and figure out what would make sense at the tricky part.*
- 4. Read more slowly.*
- 5. Use the punctuation.*
- 6. Search for clues (the picture, the previous text, the beginning of the word).*
- 7. Ask someone (a parent, a teacher, or a reading buddy).*

Give your child these words to use.

"I'd better reread this. It doesn't sound (or look) right."

"Maybe if I keep reading, I will understand what is going on."

"This is a new word for me. I wonder what it means."

"Does the picture help me know what's going on in this story?"

Teach Your Child How to Avoid a Temper Tantrum

Elementary-age children have more stress in their lives than most parents realize. When they don't have the skills to cope with stress, they resort to toddler-style outbursts and crying fits.

To minimize your child's temper tantrums, first figure out what leads to them. Avoid – and help her avoid – situations that lead to stress.

When your child has a meltdown suggest that she:

- **Take time out.** Have her remove herself from the situation for a five-minute breather. Let her return when she feels composed enough to talk calmly.
- **Use calming techniques.** Teach her to breathe deeply, slowly counting to 10. Have her dribble a ball, pet an animal, or tell herself, "I can work through this."
- **Throw it out.** Have her write or draw her angry feelings on paper. Then have her wad the paper up and toss it away.

Teach Children to Resolve Conflicts Instead of Arguing

Your two kids both want to be on the computer *right now*. You're sick of listening to it and you're tempted just to leap in and solve the problem. Take a deep breath before you do. Use this as an opportunity to teach your children to get along. Follow these steps:

- **Give the argument a name.** Use the word *conflict*. Say, "It sounds as though we have a conflict about who gets to use the computer." Remind your kids that conflict is how we learn and grow and tell them you are going to work with them to resolve the conflict.
- **Set some rules.** Both kids have to agree to work together to figure out a solution that's fair. (If they resist, tell them they can workout the problem or they both can do without the computer.) They can't call each other names. They have to tell the truth.
- **Get the facts.** Have each child tell their side of the story. Jacob may say he's working on a book report. Simon may say he has to look up facts for a report that's due tomorrow. Have each child say what he needs most. Can they figure out a way for both of them to get what they need? Be sure they state clearly what they have agreed on. You could even ask them to write down their agreement.

We can't avoid all conflict. Learning these skills will help your kids throughout their lives – and you get out of the middle.

Help Your Child Recognize Good Citizens in Your Area

Good citizens think of other people's needs, not just their own. They feel responsible for making the world a better place. Children who have such qualities get along better in school. They help make their school a better place.

To help your child develop a greater sense of citizenship: **1. Introduce your child** to people who help others for a living. Talk to police officers, fire fighters, or emergency paramedics. Ask them to tell your child why they serve others in your community. **2. Help your child** create a special "thank you" card to give them for the service they provide. Help your child prepare a special treat such as homemade cookies to give along with the card.

January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 No School New Year's Day	2 Day 3	3 Day 4	4 Mrs. Anderson's Birthday
5	6 Day 5	7 Day 6	8 Day 1	9 Day 2	10 Day 3	11 Mr. Fischer's Birthday
12	13 No School Teacher Development Day	14 Day 4	15 Day 5 Mrs. Guthmiller's Birthday	16 Day 6 5th Gr Chorus Concert 7 PM	17 Day 1 Report Cards Sent Home	18
19	20 Day 2	21 Day 3 Mrs. Scholtens' Birthday	22 Day 4 Mrs. Maassen's Birthday	23 Day 5	24 Day 6 Early Dismissal 1:15 PM	25 Mrs. Woudstra's Birthday
26	27 Day 1	28 Day 2 Mr. Landhuis' & Mr. De Jong's Birthday	29 Day 3 Mrs. Honken's Birthday	30 Day 4	31 Day 5	