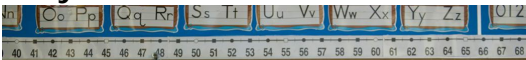




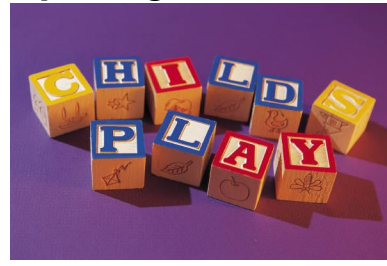
## What's Happening in Room 39? News From Mrs. Rafter's 1<sup>st</sup> Graders

### Sounding Out Words

As your child gets older he/she will become more able to sound out words when he/she is reading. They have learned "thumb" signals to help them remember how to use their Jolly Phonics sounds when they read. Thumb goes to the left as you sound out the first letter, thumb stays in the middle for the middle letter, and thumb goes to the right for the ending sound in the word. Encourage your child to use their thumb signals and Jolly Phonics to sound out words.



### Spelling Tests



We are now having our weekly Spelling Tests on Fridays. There will be ten words on the test. Every Monday your child will bring home a list of these words. Please display the list and practice it with your child. The children will be encouraged to spell these words correctly in all their daily writing as well.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Buddies

Did you know that your child has a special friend who waves to them in the hall, high-fives them and visits them every month for a special activity? These are our fifth Grade Buddies from Mrs. Sibley's class. The children love getting this special attention!



## What's Happening in Room 39? News From Mrs. Rafter's 1<sup>st</sup> Graders

### Math



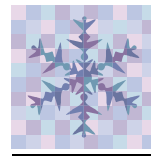
The children have been very busy learning addition and subtraction facts. We use a variety of manipulatives such as two-sided colored counters, cubes and frogs on a log. Many different strategies are taught such as counting on or back with a number line, fact families, related facts and doubles. We continue to review greater and lesser numbers as well as what comes next and between. Next the children will work on tens and ones with numbers up to 100.



### Social Studies

The boys and girls have been busy learning about the countries

and the continents around the world. In addition to this, they are having fun this month hearing about holiday customs throughout the world. Every time they learn about a new country, they do one of the customs from that particular country. They learned about England and how the English invented the first holiday card, then Holland and the custom of the wooden shoe, next was Italy and La Befana, after that was Mexico and poinsettia flowers. Recognizing other peoples' customs is a great way to reinforce learning about Respect.



### Holiday Wishes

At this time of year I'd like to wish you and your families a very happy holiday season. Enjoy your precious children; they are little for such a short time. May your new year be happy and healthy!

Mrs. Rafter



**What's Happening in Room 39?**

**News From Mrs. Rafter's 1<sup>st</sup> Graders**

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