



# Timely Tidbits from Room 6

Wesley School • Mrs. Saenz • June 2, 2010

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for sharing your delightful children with me this year. I have enjoyed having each one of them in my class. It has been extremely rewarding to watch them grow both academically and socially throughout the year.



This summer, it is essential to their academic progress that they continue to be challenged at home. Research suggests that the average child loses 20% of previously learned skills over the summer. To reduce these deficits, they should read and write *every day*. Please help your child choose books at his or her independent reading level. To determine if a book is appropriate, turn to a random page in the book. Each time they come to a word they cannot decode, they should hold up one finger. If they hold up five fingers before they finish the page, that book is too difficult for them to read independently, although they may be able to read it with your support.

Please read the enclosed list of things you can do to reinforce what we have learned at home this summer.

The Addison Public Library is holding many fun summer programs to encourage reading and learning. For more information, please visit their website at:

<http://www.addisonlibrary.org/children/summerreading.aspx>

Many of the students have mastered their addition facts up to the sum of ten. Please continue to work with your child at home on addition and subtraction facts. It is essential to their future success that they commit these to memory. Using online computer games (see the class website) is one fun way to achieve this goal.

If you have any questions for me over the summer, please send me an e-mail at:

[lsaenz@asd4.org](mailto:lsaenz@asd4.org)

I will continue to check my e-mail on a regular basis, and I would love to hear from you!

## END-OF-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

### FIELD DAY

Today was field day. In the afternoon, we watched the film, "The Wizard of Oz." I have been reading this children's story to the students over the past week.

### THURSDAY CLASS TALENT SHOW

We will be holding a class "Talent Show" on Thursday morning. This will be very informal, and if your child would like to share a talent with our class, please send necessary materials, such as music or props.

### SUMMER LEARNING PACKET

Last weekend I cleaned out my files at home and came across many unused worksheets from previous years. I thought that these would be useful for summer review, for those lazy days when the children are bored and "there is nothing to do." The students created yellow folders for these review pages. Also, please encourage your children to continue to read and write in their journals daily.

### CLASS WEBSITE

Our class website will be accessible over the summer. There are many valuable links to fun online activities. I added a new second grade math website to the links. Please save these instructions for future use. You may access the class website in one of two ways. You may go directly to:

<http://www.livetext.com/doc/1914518>

You may also access it through the district website at: [www.asd4.org](http://www.asd4.org)

Click on: Wesley / Teacher Pages / First Grade Website

**HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER!**

# WEBSITES

There are many fun and wonderful websites packed with activities to enhance student learning. We have used several of them during center time this year. While we have been working on first grade sites, you might want to check out the second grade levels for additional challenges.

This site offers many different math activities:

[http://www.harcourtschool.com/hspmath/na/grade\\_1\\_na.html](http://www.harcourtschool.com/hspmath/na/grade_1_na.html)

On this site, the students particularly like the pinball vocabulary game. The space shuttle launch game is a fun way to reinforce math facts.

[www.playkidsgames.com](http://www.playkidsgames.com)

This website offers lots of practice in many subject areas:

<http://www.sadlier-oxford.com/>

Here's a site from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics that offers some very fun math activities:

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/Activities.aspx?grade=1>

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/Activities.aspx?grade=2>

The Scholastic website offers activities in many subjects:

[http://www.teacher.scholastic.com/activities/index\\_grades12.htm](http://www.teacher.scholastic.com/activities/index_grades12.htm)

Check out this website for various math activities:

<http://www.aaaknow.com/>

This website goes along with our reading series:

[http://www.harcourtschool.com/menus/trophies/grade\\_1.html](http://www.harcourtschool.com/menus/trophies/grade_1.html)

Lots of fun things to do on these websites also:

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)

<http://www.roythezebra.com/home.html>

For activities to reinforce our science series:

<http://www.mhschool.com/science/2005/student/level1.php?isbn=0022812113>

This site has many literacy activities:

[www.ccboe.net/Teachers/josey\\_tarynn/readinglab.html](http://www.ccboe.net/Teachers/josey_tarynn/readinglab.html)

Check out "patterns" and more math activities from the National Library of Virtual Manipulatives:

[www.nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/grade\\_g\\_1.html](http://www.nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/grade_g_1.html)