### Happy New Year!

#### Welcome to 2012

##### I am very excited to begin the New Year with such a super class. I am hoping for many new and exciting learning adventures for my students, both in school and in their personal lives.

##### I want to remind you that I make regular updates to my teacher page on the Harkins Elementary website. Please check weekly for curriculum concepts that are being covered and information on our day to day activites.

Here’s to a new year and new adventures!

### In our Classroom….

#### Literacy

##### For the month of January we will begin by reviewing the reading strategies introduced last month in The Daily Café. We will begin the 5th literacy task in the Daily Five, called Word Work. Students will have the opportunity to build their skills with the weekly spelling words and sight words.

#### Math

We started our unit Addition and Subtraction to 12 in December and will continue on this concept for the whole month of January. Our first focus will be working on addition using doubles (i.e. we know 4 and 4 is 8, so 4 and 5 is the same as 4 and 4 {8} and 1 more). We will also be focusing on combinations to 10 (i.e. 6+4 or 3+7)

I will add links to some Math games on my teacher page. You can simply click on the link and it will take you directly to the game. There are 2 which focus on numbers and counting: “Okta’s Rescue” and “Flash Interactive”. I have also added three addition games: “Robin’s Doubles” and “Dinosaur Dentist” both focus on using doubles to 10, while “Save the Whale” focuses on bonds of 10 (numbers that go together to make 10, such as 2+8 or 5+5).

**You and Your World**

This month our focus will be on communities and how they change over time. We will also explore different signs and symbols used in our communites, and create our own maps using symbols!

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **monday** | tuesday | wednesday | thursday | friday |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Scholastic Book Orders Due |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30 | 31 |  |  |  |

**Coloring Books Wanted…**

Now that winter has arrived, students stay inside at morning recess. If you have any coloring books that your children are not using at home, we would appreciate having them for our class (slightly used is fine!)

Our class enjoys coloring and making crafts at recess, so if you have any extra construction paper or colored paper at home I’m sure they would enjoy having it.

**Winter is Here!!**

Just a friendly reminder to make sure your children arrive at school wearing their snowpants. Most mornings the children are outside in the morning and it is very chilly.

Many of my students have been making use of the set of extra clothing that was sent in. If you have not already sent one in please do so as soon as possible. Also,if your child comes home wearing something from the extra set, please return it. Extra socks and mittens are two of the top priorities. All students need mitts and a winter hat every day.

 Mrs.Newman January 9th, 2012

**January…**

**In Grade One**

## Janua Mrs. Underhill ry 9th, 2012