Mark Your Calendar

* **WED 10/2** National Walk to School Day
* **WED 10/9** Teacher Workday
* **FRI 10/11** Red Friday
* **TUES 10/15** Fall Picture Day
* **WED 10/16** Early Release Day
* **FRI 10/18** Trip to Children’s Theater [Peter Pan]
* **FRI 10/18** Friday Night Lights
* **WED 10/23** Unity Day /Wear Orange
* **FRI 10/25** Citizens & Scholars Assembly
* **Fri 10/25** End of First Quarter
* **MON 10/28** Teacher Workday /Parent-Teacher Conferences
* **THUR 10/31** Halloween/ All Hallows Read / Book Character Dress Up Day

We’re five weeks in to our school year, and can already hardly recall when we didn’t spend our days with one another. We have had a tremendous time learning and connecting as a community. We’ve already made a number of special memories together. Your child’s Friday Letters Notebook is a great source of information of all each week holds.

We have had a lot going on academically, also. In literacy we have been responding to stories by speaking and writing, building reading stamina, and honing strategies that good readers use – like asking questions before, during, and after reading or connecting the reading to themselves, other texts, or the world. For our word study time we have been reviewing letter sounds, “chaining” sounds together to make words, and recalling sight words.

We have begun the year in math with a focus on addition and subtraction to ten and on strategies that we can use to solve problems.

In social studies we’ve spent a lot of time learning about rules, laws, and authority figures. We’ve thoroughly enjoyed our science exploration of the Earth, sun, moon, and stars.

In addition to all these academic pursuits, we’ve also spent a good deal of time, especially in our morning meetings, learning about the attitudes and practices that will help us be successful as citizens and scholars.

As you can see, first grade is a busy place to be! ☺

Monday, September 30, 2019

The success of each child and our class as a whole this year will be due in large part to the support that we get from parents. Many of you met our room parents, ***Ansley Seguin*** and ***Selina Dungan***, at our Curriculum Night on September 24th. Together they are already doing a terrific job organizing and filling our volunteer needs. Thank you to those who have already joined them in volunteering to help out. Soon you’ll be able to check out our class volunteer calendar (accessed on our class web page) for the many opportunities that remain. Once you decide on a spot you could fill, simply email Ansley or Selina (also linked on the page) so that they can add you to our calendar. We are looking for the following help: Media (Tues at 9:25), Art (Thurs at 9:25), and Family Favorites Readers (Wed at 1:20). ALSO: Remember that we will need volunteers to cover books (+ additional contact paper to do so) for quite some time.

Notes & News

### Mrs. Shockley’s

1st Grade Class

# We’re Ready to Learn (& Laugh)!

|  |
| --- |
| Catching Up |
| Can You Help? |
| Dates to Highlight |
|   |
| Reminders |
| Book Bonanza |
| Communication |

## Volunteering Made Easy

Inside this issue:

“You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.”

**- Clay P. Bedford**

We love to read in first grade! Students are given opportunities to read at school each day and are expected to read at home each night. We would love help adding to our classroom library. We have a need for both clear contact paper and hands willing to take a bag of books to cover. Please let me know if you are able to help.

Students are encouraged to check out books from the library (Selwyn’s or PLCMC), check out books from class, or exchange between friends.

For those of you who are interested in expanding your child’s home library, we will send home **Scholastic** **Book Club** fliers monthly. Please consider ordering from their vast, affordable selection.

Another great option for expanding your library is through local used book stores. Here are some of my Charlotte favorites:

***Julia's Cafe & Books*** - 1133 N Wendover Rd. (704) 295-4585

[Proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity]

***Book Buyers*** - 1306 The Plaza

(704) 344-8611

***Book Rack*** - 10110 Johnston Rd. #5 (704) 544-8006

***2nd & Charles*** - 5331 South Blvd. (704) 523-2217

## Connecting

Your child will be most successful this year if we are working together. A vital element of this will be our communication with one another. More “Notes & News” will come approximately once a month. A grade level newsletter with curriculum information will also be posted monthly. Additional email and/or text notifications will be sent as needed. Information from home that requires my immediate attention should be placed in the pocket of your child’s Daily Folder. Any time you have questions regarding your child, don’t hesitate to email me at ***lecia.shockley@cms.k12.nc***.***us*** For information about our room you can always visit our class web site at ***http://classencountersofthe3rdkind.weebly.com/***. I look forward to us developing a strong, positive partnership this year as we strive to help your child achieve his or her very best – academically, socially, and behaviorally. ☺

Getting back into the school groove can be a challenge. A lot has been thrown at you over the last five weeks. Here are a few reminders to keep us on the same page.

* We begin our day with a class meeting every day. It is mandated that we begin by 7:45. Students should have unpacked, put on name tags, filled water bottles, and begun morning work all before this time. Please make sure your child arrives early enough to accomplish all this and have a smooth start to the day.
* PLEASE let me know in advance about absences and early dismissals. That helps me to pace your child’s assignments and assessments and reduce classroom disruption.
* Transportation changes must be sent via a note. We are unable to accept emailed requests.
* Remember that an adult should be checking off work completed on the Homework Calendar, and making sure reading is documented each evening.
* Our lunch time is from 12:17 – 12:44. Come visit us sometime. It’s an easy way to be a rock star to your child and his/her friends! ☺

## “A Book is a Dream You Hold in Your Hands” (Neil Gaiman)

## Getting Organized