



Gehlen Gazette



What's Happening

September 11, 2009

Dear Parents,

What a fun week we've had in first grade! Our stamina is building in our Daily Five as our "Read to Self" time has passed the 15 minute mark! I am so proud of these first graders and how focused they can be. Along with building our stamina, another objective of our Daily Five time this week was to learn about "good fit books." In these lessons I show students a variety of my own shoes to demonstrate how different kinds of shoes serve certain purposes. We then relate that to books and how we choose books according to what we are interested in and what our purpose is for reading— to learn more about a topic, to focus on a certain genre, to enjoy a favorite author's work, or to simply have fun with a book! This lesson also addresses how we all have our own "good fit" based on where we are as readers. We started to explore finding our own good fit books, adding them to our book tubs. We will continue this next week and on Monday, Sept. 21 we will begin nightly reading homework by bringing home good fit books we choose.

Watch for more information on this next Friday!

During our Writer's Workshop we have been celebrating poetry and specifically, poetry about color. We've enjoyed many poems from the book, Hailstones and Halibut Bones, with an emphasis on how colors evoke feelings. We used graphic organizers as a first step in writing our own color poems.

Our poetry unit sparked an art lesson based on the work of the Russian abstract artist, Kandinsky. We imitated his work with concentric circles of color using crayon and watercolor paint. Come see our beautiful creations!

In math this week we were introduced to our "Tool Kits," started working in our math journals, and learned two games— the Penny-Dice Game and Bunny Hop. Our "calendar time" is also a time for daily math rituals using money, place value, number grid counting, and recognizing patterns.

Have a great weekend!

—Mrs. Gehlen

Forest Hills Lutheran School



Photo from Google Images

Back-to-School Night is coming up on Friday, Sept. 25 at 6:30pm.

 Our fund raiser continues until the 18th. If you need more order forms they are available in the office!

Schedule change:
 School pictures will be Monday, Sept. 21

