



September 19, 2008

Dear Parents,



This weekend we will be welcoming the season of Fall.

The weeks have been going very fast. Each week the students gain more of an understanding of the routine. I try to be consistent with the assignments so they can gain a sense of independence when it comes to their seatwork. For example each day we will begin our seatwork routine with Phonics, Kidwriting, Silent Reading and Portfolio. This is the routine for the students while the Guided Reading groups will be taken. I have been modeling and walking them through this so far. Eventually I will expect the children to complete this as seatwork on their own. This week has been the best so far as to having an idea of what should be done next. We have been working on the goal this week to complete our assignments quietly. Some of the students are doing well achieving this while others are still working on this.

This past week I was continuing to test the students. We will be giving them DIBELS next week. This stands for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills. I have finished giving all of the tests to determine levels. I will begin guided reading

groups as soon as the DIBELS testing is completed. This week we read, When this Box Is Full. This book is a review of the months of the year. Please see attached letter concerning this project.

Next week we will spell words containing, “am”. Our goal is to make sure the list I hand out is placed in their Spelling folder and is kept there throughout the week. I also would like the students to copy these words in their homework book on Monday evenings. The words for next week are: **am, jam, ram, ham, tram, clam,** and **slam**. The bonus words will be: **because, best, boy, brother, but, can, children, come, day, did**. On Monday we will have a pretest. The bonus list will be given to the students who get at least six of the words correct. We will send the list home that your child will be studying.

The books that your child has in the book bag are ones that may be a little below the level in which they tested. This is so they develop confidence at the beginning in order to move forward. The books in their bag will be at their independent reading level. The books that come home that we read in group will be at their instructional level. If you have any questions or concerns about this let me know.

REMEMBER: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 IS AN INSERVICE DAY FOR THE TEACHERS. THERE WILL NOT BE SCHOOL THAT DAY.



Have a Great Weekend!
Mrs. Williams