



# Bungalow 26

## Classroom News

NOVEMBER 2017

Email: [jgonzalez@mvschools.org](mailto:jgonzalez@mvschools.org)

Phone: 415-389-7731 ex:2026

Class Website: [mrsjgonzaleztamvalley.weebly.com](http://mrsjgonzaleztamvalley.weebly.com)

### Readers gonNA ReAd

First grade readers are developing new abilities quickly, and they are now reading more complicated texts than they were reading even a few weeks ago.

When reading at home, keep an ear out for how students sound when they read. Are they reading one word at a time or are they scooping up multiple words in phrases? Are they changing their voice to match what's happening in the text or are they \*gasp\* reading like a robot?

After reading, make sure students understood what happened, even if they were read to. You can ask simple questions like to retell the characters, setting, beginning, middle, and end. You can also ask more in-depth questions like what the character's problem and solution were, what the character learned, or what life lesson the author was teaching. As first graders can tell you, good readers do SOMETHING at the end of every book.

### At Home PRACTice

Please check your child's homework folder for information about IXL and Lexia. These are two great extension apps/websites to use at home for extra practice in reading, phonics, and math.

### Dates to Note

Picture Day (Rescheduled)  
November 2 - 9:30am

Parent-Teacher Conferences  
November 6-17

Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL  
November 10

Thanksgiving Break - NO  
SCHOOL  
November 20-24

Author's Celebration  
(Rescheduled)  
November 17 - 2pm



## READING

In November our read-alouds help us celebrate the Thanksgiving season, and help us reflect on how important our families are.

WEEK ONE: Turkey Trouble

Strategy: Making Predictions

Phonics: CVC (silent e)

WEEK TWO: The Great Thanksgiving Escape

Strategy Focus: Characters Learn Lessons

Phonics: CVC (silent e)

WEEK THREE: The Relatives Came

Strategy Focus: Imagery in Narratives

Phonics: Digraph wh

## MATH

In math we are still working hard at addition strategies. We are now going to focus on a second set of strategies including: doubles, doubles plus one, unknown addends (using doubles), and the commutative property, which we loving refer to as the "flip flop" rule.

From there, the next set of lessons teaches students how to solve addition word problems. We use the "PSA" strategy where students read and highlight important information, choose a strategy to solve, and check their answer. Word problems can be tricky, but with the PSA strategy we can't go wrong!

## WRITING

Writers are still plugging away at their informational "expert books". This month they will expand their books to include a table of contents, and they will plan and write chapters by applying the familiar strategy of planning across their fingers, sketching, and then writing all about a focused topic. We will also revise by using different types of writing within the expert books including how-to sections, opinion sections, and maybe even a small moment story within a chapter. We will continue to study mentor texts that will give writers even more tips for making their books the best they can be.

## SCIENCE

We are continuing our unit about the sun, moon, and stars this month with a more in-depth look at the moon. Students will learn about the phases of the moon through careful observation. They will also learn about what makes the moon's surface so bumpy, and will experiment and then model this. Towards the end of the month, students will complete a final assessment on all the patterns of the sun, moon, and stars.