**Our 1st Grade Classroom News**

**The Week of September 12th – 16th**

**Email:** [**Lweeks@bluevalleyk12.org**](mailto:Lweeks@bluevalleyk12.org)

**Website:** [**www.bluevalleyk12.org/hes/lweeks**](http://www.bluevalleyk12.org/hes/lweeks)

* All of the newsletters are placed on my classroom website each week for an additional way to get them. I sometimes forget to add them to the website so if you need one and it’s not on the website, don’t be afraid to let me know! ☺ Just go to my website and click the Newsletters 2016-2017 on the left hand side and you should find them all.
* I will check reading logs on Wednesdays or Thursdays every week to see how they are doing so far. Please be sure to put their reading logs in their middle pocket located in the VIP folder so I can get those checked.

Sept. 13th Early Release Day  
Sept. 21st Walk-a-thon t-shirt forms are due  
Sept. 22nd Zoo Field Trip

Sept. 23rd ½ Day of School

**Upcoming Events**

**Important Info**

**Challenges of the Week**

**Tech of the Week**

**Website of the Week:** [Number Twins](http://www.softschools.com/math/games/fun/number_twins/) is a FUN game for students to find matching numbers that equal ten. Every year my kids have LOVED this website and got extremely good at it by the end of the school year!   
<http://www.softschools.com/math/games/fun/number_twins/>  
  
**App of the Week:** [Puppet Pals](http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/puppet-pals-hd/id342076546?mt=8) has always been a favorite app of mine! Kids can pick different characters and create a play using their own voices! They can pick their backgrounds and even change backgrounds during the middle of it as well! Last year I had students create plays on that app using a story they wrote during writing. They had SO much fun with it and was able to be super creative!

**Math Challenge of the Week:**We learned a new strategy for subtracting last week. We learned to use a number line. We put our finger on the biggest number and 'hop' backwards however many times it tells us to subtract it by. For example, if we read the number sentence 7-3=?, students would put their finger on 7 and hop backwards 3 times to see what number they would land on (4). Write down 4 to 8 subtraction problems and create a number line for your child (just a line with numbers 0-20 on it). Have your child solve all of your subtraction problems using the number line. *You can make this easier by using smaller numbers (less than 10) or harder by using larger numbers (more than 20) and make the number line in-between larger numbers (ex: 40-60).*  
 **Reading Challenge of the Week:** We have been working hard to figuring out story elements of books we are reading. Have your child write down the title, characters, setting, problem, and solution of a fiction book they have read this week.   
 **Writing Challenge of the Week:** We have been working on writing on notebook paper. Many students have a hard time writing so small. Have your child write some things down, in between the blue lines. Have them practice writing small, starting at the red line, and ending at the other red line. Also have them practice skipping lines as they write. You can have them write a story or tell them to copy off something. This is just a great way to practice writing in notebooks!