Dear First Grade Families,

Next week we are going into our second testing window of the year. On Wednesday, February 1st we will take our NWEA language arts assessment in the morning. On Thursday, February 2nd we will take our NWEA math assessment. The NWEA is a computerized test. The children will be in the computer lab for this test. It usually takes a student anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour approximately. During this testing window in February I will also be testing their reading levels, sight words, and hearing and recording sounds. In math we will take a middle of the year Go Math! assessment and check on writing and counting numbers to 120. I will spread these tests out over the month to make sure not to overwhelm them!

**Spelling:** Our spelling words are getting more difficult every week now. It is important to be practicing the words and spelling rule at home. I am also including a list of all the sight words we have learned so far in this spelling program. There are others we have worked on too, but this is a great list for you to check on at home! They should be able to read them fast!

**Homework**: Keep reading at home with your children. This time of the year, their skills and fluency should really be improving. Reading a book multiple times is a proven strategy to increase fluency or ease and rate of reading! In this week’s homework bag there is also a math worksheet on doubles. Please do both sides. Memorizing their doubles facts will help them to be stronger and faster with their addition facts.

**Box tops:** We are collecting box tops. Please send them in if you have any at home. The school uses the money for field trips for our students! Every single one counts.

**Snacks:** We could use some more snacks for our snack cupboard. If you haven’t contributed in a while, please send something in for the kids! They are a hungry, growing, hard-working first grade class!

I enjoy working with your children each and every day. They are learning so much and are growing in every way! myetter@alansonvikings.net