



February News 2018

Mrs. Shea's Classroom

Dear Families,

Welcome to another month in our 1st grade classroom. We would like to inform you of what has been happening in our classroom as well as upcoming events for the month.



Class Promise Celebration

Kindness Counts

On Wednesday, February 14th we will be having a Classroom Community Celebration. In place of a traditional Valentine's Day party our class will be doing a special project. We will use the day to celebrate our classroom community and class promise. This is a great time of year for the students to reflect on how they are helping each other in our classroom (Being Bucket Fillers & Using Kind Words) as well as the growth they are making in keeping the promise.

We have had almost six months of practice in giving compliments. Every afternoon our class gathers on the meeting rug for closing circle. I've taught the children how to name helpful things we've seen classmates do during the day. Compliment circles bring a sense of warmth and caring to a classroom community. As a student of mine once wrote, "Compliment circles make everyone feel good." Throughout the week we will be writing compliments to each other. The compliments will then be put into individual "Compliment" booklets.

Your child is welcome to make cards at home. Please be sure to send them to school on Wednesday, Feb. 14th.

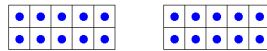


Health



During the month of February we will be learning about dental health. We will have a visit from the dentist as well as read a variety of books about teeth. We will also do a few experiments to help us learn about the damage certain kinds of drinks can do to our teeth and why brushing after drinking them is important.

Math Workshop



Upcoming Learning Target: I can use different strategies to subtract within 20.

This means I can...

- * Subtract by using a place value
- *Subtract by using related addition facts
- *Using subtraction to solve story problems

Also, please continue to help your child practice their **math facts** at home. If you are interested in having some of the games we use in the classroom that support fact practice please let me know.



Writing Workshop

Our Author Celebration was a huge success. We turned our classroom into a museum and had a chance to stop and study each other's "How To" teaching books and wrote compliments to the writer. I will be sending home their teaching books as well as their self-reflections and compliment notes this week. Please have them share their books with you and celebrate the progress they are making. We are now ready to begin writing "All About" books. The children will make a list of topics they know a lot about and will begin planning, writing, and revising their books this week. Please be sure to ask your child what topics

they plan on writing about. At this point in the year your child should be able to write several teaching books.



Ask them:

- “What do you plan on teaching others about _____?”
- “What do you know about your topic? (they need to know at least 5 facts)
- “What do you think they need to learn about _____?”

Having conversations with your child about their topics will really help them feel successful.

Important Dates:

Feb. 6th –Rescheduled Kinderkonzert

Feb. 12th-Dentist Visit

Feb. 14th-Class Community Celebration

Feb. 16th-Walk/Bike to School

Feb. 19-23rd- February Break

Feb. 26-SASSMM Presentation (Guidance)

