

Room 18 Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter Vol. 3

Weeks of October 16 – October 30, 2017

“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you've imagined. As you simplify your life, the laws of the universe will be simpler.”

– Henry David Thoreau

Upcoming Dates of Interest

- **Tuesdays** – Return Your Library books – *Last week, we had a close-to perfect return record. Let's make it 100% this week!*
- **Fridays (or Mondays ☺)** – First Grade Home/School Book Return
- **Tuesday October 10 – Friday October 20th** – Coffin School Read-A-Thon
- **Thursday October 19** – Bus Driver/Crossing Guard Appreciation Day
- **Friday October 20** – Bike/Walk to School Day
- **Tuesday October 24, 9 AM**– First Grade & Multi Kinderkonzert Field Trip to Crooker Theater
- **Monday October 30** – Picture Retake Day

Last Week, This Week (and Next Week) We're Working on...

- **Reading: Amping our Reading Power & Authors Have Intentions**- More reading strategies for tackling tricky words and discovering more about author's purpose – lessons we can learn from stories
 - **New Read Aloud:** *The Hundred Dresses* (Historical fiction): About a girl named Wanda, who wears the same dress to school every day, is teased for it and then reveals that she indeed has a hundred dresses in her closet. It's a story of speaking up for those who are different from us, the effects words can have on a person, and how one can make good on poor choices.
- **Word Work**
 - **Spelling** – 2nd graders have been given 3 challenge words based on their spelling pattern work. You should see these by Monday at the latest on the front of your folder. Voluntary spelling tests begin this week so study those spelling words and look for a new spelling list on the come & go folder in the near future!
 - **Shared Reading** – Reading *Houndsley and Catina and the Birthday Surprise* – short vowels, different ways to use vowel teams, inflected endings (-ed, -ly, -er)
 - **Making Words** – **gr. 1:** *Short vowel word families* – up, in, ig, um & **gr. 2:** Short e, blends, long vowel patterns, long vowel patterns, inflected endings (*fr, cvce i, igh, -ed*)
- **Writing:**

We are approaching our final bend of our narrative writing unit. Over the next couple weeks, we'll work on revision, editing for handwriting and spelling, re-reading our writing to make it stronger and how to edit with intent.
- **Science: Life Cycle of a Plant** – Our four rotating study groups focus on the following:
 - Dissecting parts of a seed
 - Decomposing and composting – *including scientific predictions, observations and conclusions AND a trip outdoors to hunt for compostable materials*
 - Life cycle of a pumpkin
 - Seed Dispersion
- **Math**
 - 1st Grade: **Chapter 3 – Addition to 10** – Ways to add, addition sentences & solving real word problems
 - 2nd Grade: Coming soon: A Math newsletter update just for you!

Classroom Updates

- **New Nut Allergy** – We have a student with a severe nut allergy. We're now a nut-free classroom. Simply remember to be mindful what your child brings for snack in the classroom (no nuts). It may be good to point out what their snack may be for the day. Any nut products may be consumed at lunch time. I'll help students with any questions. Thank you!
- If your child is **missing a jacket or outerwear**, chances are it's at school. I counted 12 forgotten pieces of clothing on Friday.
- We'll continue to promote filling out either Read-A-Thon logs and/or Class Reading Logs (found [HERE](#) if you're missing one)
- [Class Dojo](#) letters went home last Friday. Your child probably talks about this from time to time, so sign up and see how they're with specific feedback on behavior for each day.

Questions? Contact Mr. Funderburk at efunderburk@brunswick.k12.me.us (BEST OPTION)

or 207-319-1950 or by note. All class newsletters are also available 24/7 at

<http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/efunderburk/classroom-newsletters>