

Funderburk Room 18 Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter Vol. 7

Weeks of January 22, 2018 – February 5, 2018

“The word ‘patience’ means the willingness to stay where we are and live the situation out to the full in the belief that something hidden there will manifest itself to us.”

— Henri J.M. Nouwen

- **Weeks of Monday January 8 – February 6** – Arts Are Elementary - Quilting
- **Tuesday January 23**, 9 AM – 10:30 AM – Kinderconcert @ Crooker Theater
- **Monday January 29 – After School Game Day in Room 18 – 3:30 -4:15** (See flyer in backpack for details)
- **Monday February 12** – Dental Health presentation – Coastal Maine Pediatric Dentistry
- **No School Monday February 19 – Friday February 23** – President’s Day & Winter Break

On the Horizon (and in the past):

- **Science** – We continue to track daily the outdoor temperature and patterns in water freezing/remaining a solid throughout the school day. This practice will carry over as we learn more and take notice of the steps of scientific writing – asking questions about the world around us, recording a guess/hypothesis, planning/testing a hypothesis, conducting multiple trials, analyzing results and write a conclusion. We’re starting slow and will practice each method using writing partner science journals. This will extend into our next study group session in a few weeks and will ready us for some scientific exploration of other content areas later in the year – the water cycle, night & day & our indoor planting workshop.
- **Reading: Learning Nonfiction lingo & growing knowledge across books** We continue to find new ways to explore nonfiction texts – chatting about books with our partners, using a Table of Contents as a prior knowledge preview, noticing, understanding and using key words, using text features, noticing comparisons, while also supporting first graders with tips to solve hard words: reading the word the best you can, get a running start and trying a word two ways
- **Shared Reading: Nonfiction texts** including *In Winter (nonfiction story)*
- **Writing:** Informational Writing – learning how to include details (sizes, shapes, textures, numbers), making comparisons, labeling, giving examples and including **POP OUT WORDS**
- **Math (1st grade)** – Chapter 8 – Addition and Subtraction to 20 – multiple strategies & visuals to add/subtract: making a 10 → $8 + 6 = 10 + 4$, adding ones → $13 + 4 = 17$, using number bonds, 10 frames, number lines, and doubles facts to help both add and subtract
- **Math (2nd grade)** – On the cusp of starting a new chapter – Bar Modeling
- **Word Work –Grade 1:** digraphs/blends – ph, gr, vowel teams – ai, inflected endings –ing, **Grade 2:** ambiguous vowel sounds – ew, cvce long I words & -ld. We’ll make words individually to see how students make & break apart words on their own
- **Spelling** –Still behind in spelling due to the snow days and Arts Are Elementary dates but we’re getting back on track & still practice spelling words (and patterns) regularly. I’m looking forward to a full week (finally).

Classroom Updates

- **After School Game Day** returns Monday January 29 from 3:30-4:15. All are welcome. I will send a note with more info home this week but if your child has been talking about it, the rumors are true
- We have been working on better, quieter, more thoughtful transitions that have ranged from entering the classroom in the morning to clean-up/pack up in the afternoon. The changing schedules (snow days, AAE, etc.) has been a good reminder for us to return to the basics of being kind, safe and responsible, especially when it comes to classroom transitions.
- Both **library book return rates** AND **bringing shoes/boots to school** have been on the rise. As the temperatures rise above freezing, we’ll need to be diligent in having a change of clothes as the snow gets wetter (as do socks and clothing).

Questions? Contact Mr. Funderburk at efunderburk@brunswick.k12.me.us or 319-1950 or by note. All class newsletters are also available 24/7 at <http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/efunderburk/classroom-newsletters>