

# Funderburk Room 18 Newsletter Vol. 8, 2-Page Edition

## Weeks of February 5- February 26, 2018 (2 school weeks' worth)

*The language of friendship is not words but meanings.*

– Henry David Thoreau

### Upcoming Dates To Note:

- **Mondays After School – Game Day** – 3:30 – 4:15 (send a note, bring a board game)
- **Tuesday February 6, 9 AM – 10:30 AM – Kinderkonzert** @ Crooker Theater (make-up date)
- **Monday February 12** – Dental Health presentation – Coastal Maine Pediatric Dentistry
- **Valentine's Day/ Friendship Celebration – February 14** 2:15-3:00 PM – In the morning, we'll design our heart-shaped card catchers, then in the afternoon, we'll have parfaits for snack & exchange cards \* - *details on back*
- **Colors Weeks**– February 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> - 5-2-1-0 initiated week that recognizes the benefit of eating colorful fruits and veggies daily while as a community, as a school, we wear the themed color of the day.  
**Monday: the 12<sup>th</sup> Rainbow, Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> Orange Day, Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> – Red Day, Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> – Blue, Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> – Green & Bike/Walk to School Day**
- **No School Monday February 19 – Friday February 23** – President's Day & Winter Break

### On the Horizon (and in the past):

- **Reading: Learning Nonfiction lingo & growing knowledge across books** – Growing on nonfiction knowledge in books, reading aloud like an expert, and retelling informational texts. Along with checking out a requested list of books of interests that students wanted to learn more about from the Coffin School library (poisonous insects, extreme sports, red pandas, etc.), we'll continue to pursue intrigue over the next couple weeks by having students choose the themed mentor texts (teaching texts) and for our next round of teaching nonfiction skills.
- **Chickadee Award Books** – Every year, a set of nominated books published that year (national titles) are read in schools around the state of Maine. During Library class, each child to vote for their favorite. The result gives one book the titled honor. Click [HERE](#) for the list of nominated books we'll read and to find out more.
- **Writing: Informational Writing** – setting goals (students have started to set their own goals), using partners to notice strengths and challenges in partner writing, & using checklists to ensure our writing has all it needs to be a complete informational book (table of contents, pictures, labels, facts, introduction, conclusion). We're also reviewing skills to use when your book is complete (re-read, add-on, edit, partner check, start a new teaching book, etc.) Some students are taking the self-initiative challenge to add more advance text features such as a glossary, index, bold words/keywords, and diagrams. We're excited to share these soon.
- **Math (1st grade) –: Chapter 9 Length** – comparing the length of two or more things, using a start line, measuring, and measuring in different lengths of units
- **Math (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) –Bar Modeling** (just received a nice blurb on the unit from Mrs. Stinson)  
*2<sup>nd</sup> years have just begun learning the strategy of bar models. Bar modeling piggybacks on another excellent math strategy – drawing pictures to solve problems – but makes those pictures more uniform and easier to draw. We have begun the unit by drawing actual pictures to solve problems. If your child is a very strong mathematician these drawings will provide an extra layer of “proof” for the equation they could have easily written and solved. For those with less strong math skills the pictures can provide an “ah-ha” about why we use the equation 12-7=? to represent the word problem “If Jenny has 12 cookies and Sophie has 7 how many more does Jenny have than Sophie?” We'll be spending the first part of this unit drawing pictures for problems with solutions less than 100 but will move back into addition and subtraction with regrouping with solutions to 1,000 by the end of the chapter.*
- **Word Work –r-controlled vowels (er &ir), cvce long a, sk blends,**
- **Science** – Water Cycle: Study groups return next week with hands-on activities related to the Water Cycle (condensation, freezing, evaporation). We'll use our science writing skills to ask questions, collect data and analyze data
- **Science BONUS – Winter seed planting** (Early March). After our February break, each child will partake in the process of planting one of many individualized winter greens (radishes, peas, buckwheat, sunflowers, lentil, broccoli and more). Caroline Elliott of the Brunswick Land Trust and Lisa Martin (Coffin School RTI Reading Teacher) have coordinated a grant to supply all the materials we need to some fairly quickly growing plants. We'll ask questions, observe and collect informaton about our plants through the process. Finally, we will harvest the greens and share in a “salad-bration” (not my pun) to consume the greens together.

## Classroom Updates

- **After School Game Day** continues on Mondays in February (the 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>) - We had great fun during the first gathering! In class, we reflected and talked about ways to make our experience even better. Other Multi-Age classrooms will join in after the break with themed rooms (more info to come soon)
- **Indoor Safety Drill Update:** Our lesson around indoor safety drills focused primarily on ensuring students know to **Stop, Listen, and Do** what the teacher or adult says the first time no matter how unusual the request. We have a practice drill on the horizon. More details coming soon.
- **Classroom Needs:** Snacks, Expo white board cleaner, post-it notes (3"x3" ones are great)

## Friendship Celebration – Wednesday February 14<sup>th</sup> from 2:15-3:00 PM

- Featuring: Yogurt parfaits and card exchange
- **Need:** Two Parent volunteers to help set up and clean-up – 2-3:15
- Students: Make or bring **personally addressed friendship cards for each child in the class -21 total**
- Class list of names will be provided with this newsletter in your child's folder on Monday
- We have card making material for anyone interested in using colored paper
- Get creative! A specific note of kindness, drawing of something, personalized origami, or making of a favorite special craft for each child will make every classmate feel special.
- Children bring their cards to school anytime they're finished
- Class list with student names will be included in your child's folder

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## Friendship Celebration Sign-Up *(cut & return to school, I'll confirm)*

**Wednesday February 14 from 2:15-3:00**

*We have left over napkins and drinks from our last celebration*

- **1 large yogurt, plain**
- **1 large yogurt, vanilla**
- **1 large yogurt, strawberry**
- **washed, sliced strawberries**
- **washed, sliced strawberries**
- **sliced pineapple**
- **washed blueberries**
- **plastic spoons**
- **8 oz. cups (24)**
- **1 container sliced bananas**
- **1 container sliced bananas**
- **I can volunteer and help with set up and clean up afterwards (roughly 2:00-3:15)**
- **3-5 large serving spoons**
- **Wild card item: anything nut-free you'd like to contribute that's not listed**

**Questions? Contact Mr. Funderburk at [efunderburk@brunswick.k12.me.us](mailto: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>**