

## Funderburk Room 18 Newsletter Vol. 9

### Weeks of February 26- March 16, 2018

*With every drop you drink, every breath you take, you're connected to the sea*

– Sylvia Earle

#### Upcoming Dates To Note:

- **Game Day** returns Mondays after school 3:30 – 4:15 (send a note/e-mail, bring a board game)
- **Favorite Book Character Dress Up Day** (school-wide) – **Friday March 2**
- **No School - Friday March 16**– Parent/Teacher Conferences (details below)
- **Early Release Day** – Wednesday March 21 – Professional Day

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

- **Reading: Reading Aloud like an Expert** + retelling (fiction & nonfiction)
- **Writing: Informational Writing** – Editing, revising, re-writing, focusing on conventions of writing and finally, publishing. We are looking forward to sharing one (or more) of our published with you at conferences
- **Jump Rope Assembly** – This Friday March 2, we'll have a jump rope assembly that will launch [Jump Rope for Heart](#). Students from the Central Lincoln County School system will visit for what will surely be a motivating workshop session to get our children excited about jumping rope
- **Math (1st grade) –: Chapter 11 Picture Graphs & Bar Graphs** – Both our length and graphing units have been excellent opportunities to allow students with visual and spatial strengths to thrive. For this upcoming unit I have planned some hands-on, real life graphing tasks (some stemming from our colorful food week) that will allow students to explore graphing in various ways and lead them to make conclusions like scientists.
- **Science/LEAP Update**
  - **Our winter seed planting:** Mid-March after conferences. I'll reach out soon for parent help in assisting with set up of seeds, soil, planting plots, etc.
  - **2018-2019 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Science Curriculum News:** *Brunswick Community Education Fund* has funded two 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Science -themed units through our *Learning, Enrichment, Academic Arts Programs (LEAP)* to support next year's 2<sup>nd</sup> grade science curriculum A. mounted arthropod specimens & magnifying glasses B. Materials to coincide with our Physical Changes unit. Both units will support demonstrations and materials with science teacher, Jon Wallace who visited us last year for both units
  - LEAP will join us Mid-March to follow up on our Water Cycle unit. Mrs. McCormick will provide hands-on demo to connect the water cycle relationship between clouds, vapor, condensation & more!

#### Classroom Updates

- **Foreign Language Lunch Bunch-** Reading Specialist, Annie Young has partnered with some Bowdoin students to introduce foreign languages to each child in first grade and multi-age. Each student will have a basic small group lunch session with a Bowdoin student who will teach some basics of Chinese, German or Spanish. This week: Our class will have a whole group lunch session to review expectations & then smaller lunch sessions, thereafter.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences** –Friday March 16 from 8 AM – 5 PM. I will have a **TBD evening date, (likely the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>)**. On Monday, look out for a PTC Fast digital link and/or backpack copy to sign up for Fri. timeslots
- **Favorite Character dress up day** - An annual event celebrating reading and Dr. Seuss' birthday! On Friday your child is welcome to dress like their favorite book character. We'll generate ideas early in the week. Simple ideas work best – a hat, accessories, matching clothing, etc.. Some characters we're familiar with: Elephant and Piggie, Bella & Rosie, Mr. Putter, Pete the Cat, Katie Woo, Flat Stanley, Frog and Toad, Jack & Annie.
- **iPad pilots** – BSD tech. dept. has issued me four iPads with mic'd headphones to pilot various academic Math, Science, and literacy apps. We'll explore these during choice time and small groups.
- **Indoor Safety Drill Update:** Our low-key safety drill went well. We practiced following directions. All did great!
- **Classroom Needs:** Nut-free snacks, Expo white board cleaner

**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>**