

# Funderburk Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter Vol. 2

## Weeks of October 8 – October 22, 2018

*"In order to carry a positive action we must develop here a positive vision." -Dalai Lama*

### Upcoming Dates of Interest

- **No School: Indigenous People Day/Columbus Day** –Monday October 8
- **School-wide PJ Day** - Wednesday October 31
- **No School – Election Day/Professional Development** – Tuesday November 6

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

- **Reading:** We are currently working toward reading strategies for solving hard words AND growing our capacity as readers (readers grow like beanstalks) by thinking more as we read - using post-it notes to remind ourselves of important parts, reading in even bigger scoops and retelling at the end of our books
  - We recently finished the book *Catwings* as a read aloud and will create a story map of the setting next week to reinforce character and setting retelling. Our next read aloud will be *Charlotte's Web*
  - We'll reacquaint ourselves to appropriate use of reading partnerships (partners give reminders, build good habits, do something at the end, talk about the books)
  - We'll welcome a new America Reads Bowdoin Tutor, Will, who will join us on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to support our reading habits and practices
- **Social Studies/Study Groups:** We are moving into week 3 of our study groups. A good "How was your day?" question on Tuesdays and Thursdays is to ask about what was done in your child's study group
- **Word Work/Handwriting:**
  - **Handwriting** - We've practiced and completed all capital letters (starting corner is the upper left or for some letters AND "starting center" for the other letters – always start at the time)
  - We will now move on to appropriate formation of lowercase letters and practice sizing and spacing
  - We covered word families (-in, -ig, -ug), -ing inflected endings, fr blends, i-e words (hire, fire), -ed inflected endings & -igh vowel patterns this past week
  - We also introduced and will continue to work on differentiated spelling pattern word sorts (ranging from initial consonants, short vowels, diagraphs, long vowel patterns and other long vowel patterns) – some of these sorts have pictures, some simply words – look for them coming home after a few days of exacting the pattern
- **Writing:** Craft moves from mentor authors – a big, sometimes tricky idea, which includes noticing things authors do and applying it to our writing - stretching out our story across pages, giving clues that something might happen, using comparisons and not telling the big thing that happened right away – adding some intrigue
- **1<sup>st</sup> Grade Math:** We will wrap up Number Bonds (Ch. 2) this week and move on to Addition to 10. We are also working
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Math:** Recently completed Chapter 1 – Numbers to 1,000 – assessments will be coming home for you to see how they did with the foundational skills. Their next chapter will be chapter 2 Addition to 1,000.

### Updates

- Starting this week, first graders (and new 2<sup>nd</sup> graders) will have a chance to have lunch in the classroom to connect with classmates in a smaller setting (roughly 3 at a time) and to help me get to know some of our newer additions
- We have recently filled our class gem jar by working together as a team to follow class expectations (and school-wide expectations). If we fill our bucket next time in less than 19 days, we'll double our celebration next time
- Class needs: We are all set with class supplies. Reach out to me if you're interested in volunteering.

**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>**