

Funderburk Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter Vol. 3

Weeks of October 22 – November 5, 2018

1. "If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else." – Booker T. Washington

Upcoming Dates of Interest

- **Tuesday October 31** – School Wide PJ Day
- **Monday November 5** – Picture Retake Day-*send a note if you'd like your child to retake their picture*
- **Tuesday November 6** - No School – Election Day/Professional Development
- **Monday November 12** – No School -Veteran's Day observed
- **Tuesday November 20 Early Release Day (1:10 PM Dismissal)** – Parent/ Teachers Conferences
- **Wednesday November 21 –Friday November 23** No School - – Thanksgiving Break

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

- **Reading: Author intentionality** – powerful parts of a book & how they're powerful, lessons from books **Word Detectives** – using specific word solving strategies to solve bigger words – this can be done with 3 and 4 letter words or complex 3 or 4 syllable words
 - I have been and will continue to give stronger readers opportunities to write about their reading through written responses of problem identification and resolution, reflection on the author's purpose
 - Developing readers have been working on building their good fit book inventory and reading for longer stretches of time while also using post it notes to highlight favorite or interesting parts.
 - I've been encouraging a wider variety of book choice in book bags – some children get comfortable with a particular series or genre (which is great for developing readers), but once we become more voracious readers, wide variety book choice becomes a little more important
- **Social Studies/Study Groups:** This week we start over with a brand new study group. If your child had me for community, they'll move on this week to World Cultures with Ms. Lowe. Ms. Lowe's Culture group will move on to Mrs. Stinson's Maps & Globes. Maps and Globes study group will shift to Mrs. Erb's Wabanaki study group and Wabanaki study group from last round will shift to community in my room
- **Word Work/Handwriting:**
 - **Handwriting** – Con't to form lowercase letters – "magic c" letters – a, d, g & then on to remaining vowels – u, e, i
 - **Making words** – **First graders** – word families of **et, -ot, op, or ep** in them, blends with **st**, and –ed inflected ending
--**Second graders** – St Blends, vowel teams with ea, oa, oe, plurals with - es
- **Writing:** We have started working on revision in our writing. We've assigned 1st & 2nd & 3rd grade writing checklists. *Over the coming weeks, we'll continue to order our pages into the books, find ways to edit, rewrite and revise our small moment books ultimately designing a title and dedication page in the computer lab and ready them for publishing by conference time*
- **1st Grade Math:** Addition to 10 for another week. We've started our fact fluency (practicing addition for numbers to 10)

Updates

- **Fire Safety** was last week - find a meeting spot, have a fire escape plan, check smoke detectors
- This week we've read a few books on mindfulness ***What Does it Mean to Be Present & Be Where Your Feet Are.*** This week we'll look to build our mindfulness in helping others and working together. We'll have a few activities this week during choice time that focus on working in unique teams and groups.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences** are around the corner. Be on the lookout next Monday the 29th and you will receive both an e-mail link and a paper copy to sign up for parent/teacher conferences (**only need to sign up 1 way**) Our dates to meet will be: **Monday November 19th (4-8 PM), Tuesday November 20th (1:00-6)** and a few M/TU/TH after school slots the week of November 26th. Need another time? Let me know on the paper form. We'll work it out!
- Class needs: **Plastic sleeve covers** with 3 holes punched to the side of the sleeve, one large **2 ½ inch 3 ring binder** (one of the rings holding our word sort masters popped open), **carpet cleaner** (to touch up spots and stains on our carpets)

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>