

Funderburk Room 18 Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter Vol. 4

Weeks of December 3 – December 21, 2018

"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see."

Mark Twain

- Early Release Day Wednesday December 5 (1:10 PM Dismissal) – Professional Day
- Full Day of School – Friday December 21
- Brunswick High School Choral Concert - Friday December 21 at 2:45 PM
- No School: Monday December 24 – Tuesday January 1 (Return on Wednesday January 2, 2019)

Last Week, This Week (and Next Week):

- **Reading: Nonfiction Texts** – Parts of a nonfiction text to pay attention to, growing our knowledge about nonfiction, how to get super smart about nonfiction books
- **Mixed Study Groups** – We've moved on this past week to our 3rd (and latest) study group of cultures, maps, community or Wabanaki
- **Writing: Realistic Fiction Narrative** – Writers make up a character, give them a personality and feelings and write series of stories of the adventures they get into along with the way the story ends (ending should satisfy the reader) Also, spelling words the best we can, setting goals for our writing, and using descriptive dialogue and phrasing in our narratives
- **Math** (first grade) –Chapter 5 Solid and Plane Shapes, 2nd Graders continue to work on multiplication and division
- **Word Work & Spelling** – Working on spelling over this trimester focusing on a more essential 15-25 word list of 1st & 2nd grade "No Excuse" words that commonly appear in our writing. I'll send home a list highlighting the words to work on with informal check ins to see their spelling grow in their writing. We'll also touch on handwriting, and differentiated word work within spelling patterns – short vowels all the way through unique vowel patterns and inflected endings. This is all ongoing.

Classroom Updates

- Thank you for another successful round of parent/teacher conferences. It's always a pleasure to meet with each family and share/hear how their year has been going.
- **Kindness for 5** –Each week through the end of the month, students will be assigned a mystery student to show kindness to. At the end of the week, each student will try to guess who their mystery student was. We'll go over subtle ways to show kindness (tone, proximity, engaging in conversation, playground choices, etc.)
- **Snack Time on Tuesdays** – To off-set our Guidance lessons in the classroom during Specials, we will start this Tuesday with a "walking snack": We'll walk outdoors together around the building to give ourselves some movement and fresh air during a typically long day in the classroom. ***If you could intend to send a "walkable snack" –something in a baggie, an apple, banana...we'll make it work***
- **Kindergarten Celebration** – This Monday we'll host Mrs. Plante's Kindergarten class for Choice Time as part of a celebration they voted on last week to visit our classroom. A couple younger siblings are in this class.
- **Home Reading Folder** – I spoke to a few families during conferences about sending home some books for some children to practice their reading – Those will go home this week. Read the books regularly M-TH and return them on Friday for new books the next week. Have your child log what they've read.
- Be on the look-out for an announcement for our annual School-Wide food drive – coming soon!
- **Classroom Needs:** We could use some extra spare games, puzzles or used toys that incorporate turn taking and sharing.

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>