

# Funderburk Room 18 Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter Vol.

## Weeks of March 11 – March 25, 2019

*We cannot stop the winter or the summer from coming. We cannot stop the spring or the fall or make them other than they are. They are gifts from the universe that we cannot refuse. But we can choose what we will contribute to life when each arrives*

- Gary Zukav, American Teacher

### Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Tuesdays After School Game Day in Room 18 – 3:30 -4:15
- Kids Heart Challenge - This Wednesday March 13 @ 10:20, parents welcome to join kids in jump roping
- Early Release/ Professional Day – Wednesday March 20: 1:10 Dismissal
- Arts Are Elementary – Body Mapping – Various TBD dates March 22 – March 29
- Thursday March 28 – Coffin School Spring Concert: 9:30 & 1:00 (same performance each time)
- Multi-Age Writing Celebration –Café, Thursday March 28: 1:45 – 2:30 PM (after the 1:00 Spring Concert)
- Early Release Professional Day Thursday April 11, 1:10 Dismissal
- No School Professional Day Friday April 12

### Last Week, This Week (and Next Week):

- **Reading:** Being the boss of our reading (accuracy, fluency, comprehension strategies), including 2<sup>nd</sup> grade strategies to be a more fluent reader. Some ready students will choose a fluency goal related to something they feel they want to improve (scoop words into longer phrases, talk like the characters, read with a “just right” pace – not too fast or too slow, & make your voice match the mood)
- **Partner Reading:** we will practice more partner reading to help us build our fluency & comprehension skills
- **Read Aloud: *The One & Only Ivan*** - Ivan, a gorilla lives in a cage near a mall. He is part of a quasi-circus show/zoo display. There is an elephant named Stella who is growing older and a comic relief dog whose name is Bob. Together they live through highs and lows of establishment run by their owner, Mack who also cares for the Big Top Mall. The talking animals soon meet Ruby, a shy, younger new elephant who arrives and receives some TLC from Ivan & Stella. Their journey together slowly helps transform the rundown and dilapidated mall.
- **Writing:** Editing & publishing our teaching books for another week and then moving onto Opinion writing – opinions about the world around us AND eventually, book reviews (2<sup>nd</sup> graders)
- **Math (grade 1): Chapter 11** Picture Graphs and Bar Graphs (finishing soon); **Chapter 12** Numbers to 40
- **Science/Social Studies:** Continuing our study animal study: Classifications, Bird Beaks, Clues from Skulls & Eggs. Tuesday will be our final session of group 1 & Thursday we'll start with round 2 – Tuesdays & Thursday 12:45-1:45 through the end of March

### Classroom Updates

- **Conferences & Report Cards:** Thank you for making time to meet over these past couple days to discuss your child's progress. I hope you gained insight into their school day and got a scope of goals and focus moving forward into the homestretch of this year and next year
- **Late May, Early June,** we hope to lock down our end-of-the year **Feast & Festival**, an evening that celebrates all of our students through project based presentations of learning, pot luck styled food, and songs & music. When you see the sign-up for the date, please make it a priority to join us. It's always one of the most memorable times of year
- Many children have been embracing the science of coding lately through an app known as [Kodable](#). It has grown a lot of their thinking and planning skills in a world of programming characters to move through designed commands. I have recently signed up for another Coding program known as [Hopscotch](#). We'll give that a try in the coming weeks as well.

**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>**