

Funderburk Room 18 Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter Vol. 12

April 29- May 13, 2019

“The human spirit must prevail over technology.” – Albert Einstein

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Game Day is back for two final weeks – THIS *Tuesday April 30 & Tuesday May 7*
- **Screen Free Week** – April 29 – May 3 (we will try to be screen free this week!)
- **ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) Day** – Wednesday May 1, 9:15 AM
- **Diversified Arts Screen Free Evening** – Wednesday May 1, Coffin School, 5:30 – 7:00 PM
- **Early Release Day** – Wednesday May 8 – 1:10 Dismissal
- **Spindleworks** walking field trip – Tuesday May 21 – no cost!
- **Memorial Day** – No School – Monday May 27
- **Maine Marimba Ensemble Visit** – Wednesday May 29th
- **Multi-Age Feast & Festival** Celebration – Thursday June 6, 5:30 – 7:00 PM
- **Maine State Music Theater** Walking Field Trip – *Snow White* – Wednesday June 12, 10 AM
- **Maine Wildlife Park** trip – Friday June 14 – All Day
- **Field Day** – Wednesday June 19 – at Coffin School

This Week (and Next Week):

- **Reading:** This week we start a new unit on studying series characters – learning lessons from these characters, noticing their habits, patterns and how they solve problems. Poetry month has been fun – added a slew of poems to our Poetry folders. We’ll revisit writing poetry in June.
- **Writing:** Opinion writing – We have been writing an array of opinion books ranging from why we should change school rules we do not like to writing about a favorite book or favorite non-screen activity. This week we’ll pay attention to who our audience is, add sections to our opinion, work on conclusions, share juicy plots in the books we review (or juicy reasons) and use evidence to convince our readers.
- **Math (grade 1): Chapter 13** Test is this week. We begin a unit on Calendar later this week.
- **Math (grade 2): Money** – another week on this unit
- **Study Groups** – Animal research – Starting this week students will research a self-selected animal to learn more about – habitat, food it eats, protection, etc. We’ll support children in how to be a scientist, how to ask questions, how to extract info from books & will present our final product in June at Feast & Festival.

Classroom Updates

Our **Spindleworks** walking field trip is around the corner (5/21). After a year of Spindleworks artists visiting us, we have the opportunity to drop in their space in downtown Brunswick. Permission forms may have mentioned something about lunch on the field trip but we’ll return in time for school lunch in the cafeteria.

Screen Free Week – Diversified Arts has been working hard w/ the RTI team to design a memorable & exciting Screen-Free evening for families this Wednesday starting at 5:30 PM. This week **we** will try to be screen free **all week**. The only scaling down that will likely need to occur will be our Class Dojo activity (so likely not many updates this week) AND less use of the interactive white board. We’ll likely convert to classic white board this week. I’d like to get creative and perhaps read outdoors if the weather allows. I’d also like for us to play in the rain for a few minutes if the opportunity arises, so send raincoats on rainy days (umbrellas not necessary). Screen time is as much of a challenge for me as it is for our kids. This week we’ll likely connect more with each other than with technology.

*Next week will be our final **GAME DAY (Tuesday May 7)**. Next week I’ll allow one guest or friend from Coffin School (or a sibling) to join. The friend’s family will need to send a note to their teacher next Tuesday.*

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>