

Funderburk Room 18 Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter Vol. 13

May 13-May 27, 2019

"Thank you for all of the remarkable gifts AND personalized notes and drawings. I feel truly appreciated."

– Mr. Funderburk

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- **Spindleworks** walking field trip is Tuesday May 21
- **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:** We have been studying characters in various series books (Frog & Toad, Zelda & Ivy, Pompleton, Mr. Putter, Tabby & Mrs. Teaberry). This week we'll predict what these characters will do when faced with a problem. This will be an appropriate transition into paying attention to lessons learned in books.
- **Writing:** We conclude our opinion writing this week by reminding writers to re-read their writing and fix things that do not look right. Last week we looked at an opinion piece on the benefits of biking that gave lots of reasons, examples, descriptive and sometimes elaborate comparisons. This week we'll practice re-reading our writing to edit. We will also look at the progress from our opening opinion piece we wrote many weeks ago and compare to our final "on demand" piece of writing to notice differences and growth
- **Math (grade 1): Chapter 15** – Wrapping up Calendar and then we're on to Chapter 16 – Numbers to 120
- **Math (grade 2): Fractions** – This has been a bit of a new and challenging concept. From Mrs. Stinson: *Second Years are working on naming, recognizing, comparing, adding and subtracting fractions. It is an interesting concept to think of learning to name all the numbers that come between zero and one! Look for all the fractions you can this weekend!*
- **Study Groups** – We have been researching animals for a week. Students absolutely love and are engaged in this work. In our classroom study group, I remind students that we are scientists who are asking questions and gathering information to making conclusions. My hope is that we are finding new information about our topic and not just regurgitating information we already know. We know how to read across different sources to find all we know about our topic (for example, we don't just write that horses eat grass, we look elsewhere to find what else horses eat). We also want to find a way to write down information in our own words. Next week or the week after, we'll begin the process of transferring our research to our poster.

Classroom Updates

We have an exciting opportunity for an **Art inspired project happening this Friday afternoon** involving sidewalk cracks and creative thinking. One of our student's grandparents is a retired teacher and has worked with Arts Are Elementary in the past. She'll join us for a lesson to most certainly inspire and create.

This is a good time of year to remind everyone of a **tree nut allergy we have in our classroom**. If you could help your child identify any products with nuts and remind them to eat them only in the cafeteria. Nut products are to be consumed only in the cafeteria during lunch time, even if it's intended as a snack. Additionally, if a child eats anything nut related in the morning before school, we ask that they wash up before coming to school. We do the same here with handwashing reminders before and after meals. I'm happy to help students identify packages with potential nut exposure. Everyone is really good at asking if they have a question. Thanks for your diligence with this!

If you have any 50-100-piece jigsaw puzzles you'd like to donate, we will gladly accept them for our puzzle area

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>