

# Funderburk Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter

## Vol. 9, Weeks of February 3 - February 24, 2020

*"A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song" - Maya Angelou*

### Upcoming Dates of Interest

- **Mondays After School** - Game Day 3:30-4:15, pick up in room 18 - send a note by 9 AM
- **Thursday February 6 & Friday February 7** - Dental/Health visits
- **Friday February 7** - CFC Family Movie Night - Peanuts: The Movie (6:00PM)
- **February 10 - 14, Colors Week** (Monday - rainbow, Tuesday - blue, Wednesday- yellow, Thursday - green, Friday - red)
- **February 16-21** - No School - President's Day Holiday & Winter Break
- **Friday February 28 & March 20** - Walk/Bike to School (Volunteers welcome, 8:15- 9:00)
- **Monday March 2** - Community Read Aloud, Dr. Suess' birthday
- **Week of March 9** - Jump Rope for Heart - See CFC newsletter for details, PE is on 3/11 @ 10:20 for us
- **Monday March 9** - Kinderkonzert (**string instruments**) at Crooker Theater, 9:00-10:30
- **Friday March 13** - **No School**, Parent/Teacher Conferences
- **Thursday March 26** - Coffin School Spring Concert - Performances @ 9:30 & 1:00 PM (snow date: 3/27)

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

**Reading:** We have been reviewing reading strategies for first graders (and 2nd graders) to use while solving hard words in nonfiction books, skills such as getting a running start, doing a slow check, saying the word the best you can/thinking about what it means, and checking a word to make sure it looks and sounds right AND also makes sense. Some students have been studying specific topics in small groups and partnering to talk about their findings. In the coming weeks, we'll pursue more opportunities for everyone to take notes and use those notes to teach readers in our writing.

**Writing:** Nonfiction/informational writing - We're continuing to review spelling tips. Over the coming weeks before break, we'll work on using checklists to collaborate with writing partners for tips on adding more details to our teaching books. We will also work on transferring our reading to our writing, extracting new facts to teach our readers. I hope also to wrap back around to writing conventions - proper formation, good spacing, mindful use of punctuation and capitalization/lowercase letter use within sentences.

**Study Groups:** In our classrooms, our study group has focused on asking scientific questions (creating a hypothesis), observing, predicting, and recording observations over the past few weeks. This week, we will continue scientific observations by observing the roots of a radish seed as it grows over the span of a 3-7 days

**1st Grade Math: Chapter 8** - Wrapping up Adding & Subtracting Numbers to 20, then onto Length before February break

**2nd Grade Math:** Geometry

### Classroom & School Updates

- Dentist presentations & visits this week, coinciding with National Children's Dental Health month
- This week students will take part of our tri-annual AIMS web universal screening process - quick reading and math probes to assess progress and growth. Additionally, classrooms begin assessing students through the end of February in reading and writing. Thank you for advance notice of absences!
- We have initiated a class goal to "catch classmates" being kind to each other. Students will catch kind acts and write the specific gesture on a post-it note. It will then be placed on the 100s chart. Our goal is to get to 100 kind acts by either the 100th day of school OR by February 14th, the last day of school before our February break. We have already gotten to 11 in two days.

**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>**