



# Primary Department Newsletter



February 2018

## Important Dates:

**February 8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>** - Students bring and deliver Valentine's cards to the bags of their ENTIRE HOMEROOM and friends

**February 13<sup>th</sup>** - Valentine's Day Bags go home

**February 14<sup>th</sup>** - Ash Wednesday Mass

**February 16<sup>th</sup>** - Dress Up as your Favorite Character Day

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** - Sweet Treats Primary Bake Sale (during lunch)

**February 21<sup>st</sup>** - Half Day, NO AFTER SCHOOL

**February 22<sup>nd</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>** - No School, Rodeo Break

**March 29<sup>th</sup>** - Half Day

**March 30<sup>th</sup>-April 6<sup>th</sup>** - No School, Easter Break

## **Valentine's Day Exchange**

To celebrate Valentine's Day, we will exchange cards prior to dismissal on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

If your child would like to bring in Valentine cards, your child must make a card for EVERY student in his/her HOMEROOM class at home over the next few weeks. If your child would like to give a card to a friend in another homeroom class, he/she is more than welcome to do so! Students can bring their cards to school to begin passing them out as early as February 8<sup>th</sup>. The bags will be brought home filled with cards for your child to read and enjoy on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Dress Up as Your Favorite Character Day on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>

For homework of the week of February 12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>, students will need to dress up as a character from a book. Please have students bring in the book that shows the character as well. Students will share their book and their costumes in reading class. I cannot wait to see all of the book characters on that Friday.

## Sweet Treats Bake Sale

Calling all bakers and sweet treat makers!!

Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> is your day to shine. Please bring your favorite individually wrapped treat (either homemade or store bought) to help raise money for our primary field trips. Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be placed outside each homeroom on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup>.



Are you beginning your spring cleaning?

If you have any items or toys that you do not want anymore, consider giving them to your homeroom teacher to auction off at one of our Classroom Economy Auctions on Friday.

# CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS

## Reading:

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** We worked on making connections to the book and we will continue to do so throughout March. We are focusing on the following questions:

- What did this story make you think of?
- What connections did you make while reading this story?
- What lesson did you learn by reading this story?

**Coming Soon:** We will be focusing on reading fluently with expression for the higher leveled texts.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** We continued to use the summary organizer (the sheet with in the beginning, next, then, in the end) to write summaries. Many students have passed or are close to passing the DRA 28 (the one that students are required to write their summary out).

**Coming Soon:** We will revisit how to use Cornell Notes to determine the topic, main ideas, and supporting details of informational texts. We will also work on using the expository text features (table of contents, headings, glossaries, and diagrams) effectively. We will also be supporting our ideas with evidence from the text.

## Language Arts:

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Students have been working on their complete "hamburger style" paragraphs and including descriptive details in their writing. We have also been studying published authors who use fabulous word choice. Our young writers have been incorporating rock words (descriptive) in their own writing. In grammar, students finished a unit on adjectives and are currently learning all about verbs - it's what we do!

## Coming Soon:

Students will be learning how to use informative writing while completing an animal report.

## Social Studies:

We have been traveling back in time to Colonial America! We investigated what life was like for the Colonists and the native American people. We took a look at many cultural elements like their housing, schooling, clothing, and other daily life elements. We are much more appreciative of our indoor plumbing and mattresses - it's the little things!

## Science:

Students are learning about the life cycle of Darkling beetles by observing mealworms over time and recording their changes in structures and behaviors in their Science Notebooks.

**Religion in Primary:** We worked on showing kindness to others in actions and words.

**Coming Soon:** We will also prepare for Lent and Easter.

## Math:

**1<sup>st</sup> Grade:** Students have been adding two digit numbers with regrouping, measuring objects to the nearest foot and making congruent shapes and designs using geoboards. Students are identifying the angles of polygons, and creating/constructing number lines. We will soon be reading time using the a.m. and p.m. labels and making our very own Venn diagrams.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Students are constructing number lines, and locating and naming points on a number line. Students are also writing three-digit numbers in expanded form, naming line segments and identifying factors and products. Over the next few weeks, students will be identifying perfect squares and simplifying expressions with exponents of 2.