

Sunday, October 30th, 2011

Dear 2nd Grade Families,

With only three weeks of school remaining until Thanksgiving break, it seems like time is sure flying!

Congratulations to Darin Bone, the 2nd grade winner of the character trait "Failure Leads to Success"! With a new month comes a new character trait, and this month we'll be learning "Speak with Good Purpose." What we say to others—and to ourselves—can have a huge impact. Speaking with good purpose is about always considering the intention of our words. It's about communicating directly, clearly, honestly, and with a positive purpose.

Our Imagine It! story this week is titled "Red Light, Green Light, Mama and Me." As I'm sure you noticed, these stories are getting quite lengthy. Please be sure to help you child out by taking turns reading the selection aloud. I don't want the story to be daunting or frustrating for your child.

In Shurley this week, we will learn to identify and label the complete subject and complete predicate. In the spirit of the season, we will be writing about things we are thankful for. Look for this to be hanging in the hallway soon. We'll also learn about comparative adjectives, as well as singular and plural nouns.

We have our monthly Orthographic test Tuesday, so there will be no spelling test that day.

In math, we will find perimeter, we will learn the subtracting 9 facts, we will identify activities that take one hour, one minute, and one second; we'll tell and show time to the minute; and we'll count quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies.

In history, we continue to work on our War of 1812 paragraphs, which highlight the things we've learned about during this fascinating war. It is my hope to have these wrapped up this week. We will have an assessment over the War of 1812 on Wednesday, November 9th. A study guide will come home if you are interested in studying at home.

In computers, we continue to work on the computer typing program "Ainsworth." We've also become very proficient at putting clip art and sentences in a word document!

I'm excited to say we'll be resuming science now that we've finished Peter Pan! Our unit of study will be "simple machines." We will begin with a fun experiment on Tuesday, which will help the children identify the force that causes machines to work. Students will learn that when work is done, if the effort increases, the distance decreases and vice versa. We'll learn this through an experiment on Thursday.

Sounds like snow is on its way once again this week. Stay safe and warm!

Warmly,
Stacy Thompson