

Sunday, November 6th, 2011

Dear 2nd Grade Families,

I'll begin this week's letter with a few items of importance. I sent a letter home last week, but just a reminder that we will be making placemats for patients at Children's Hospital, and we are in need of Christmas card covers if you can provide us with either some old ones you have saved or some new ones.

I'm interested to know if you received the Snow Day call from the district last Wednesday. If you did NOT receive that call from Re3-j, please let me know so we can be sure to get your number on that list. Thank you!

This week is a Library check-out week. Please have your child return their book to get a new one.

We have the entire week of Thanksgiving off—please mark your calendars.

The annual CCA Christmas program will be held on Friday, December 2nd at 6:00 at Weld Central Junior High. You'll want to mark your calendars for this special event as well!

Our Imagine It! story this week is titled "In the Money." It is a great story about how banks work; however it is full of a lot of information. We will work diligently at comprehending the information and the vocabulary. As always, complete the re-read Wednesday evening.

As you probably figured out, we are now a day off on our Spelling schedule. Therefore, when you study at home and are referencing the dates at the top of the lists, be sure to remember that we are a day behind due to our snow day last week.

In history, we are finally wrapping up our War of 1812 paragraphs this week. We will edit our paragraphs and then write our final drafts. They should be pretty impressive once we are finished! We will have our assessment over the War of 1812 on Wednesday. A study guide came home last week; however, the children should know the information quite well after writing our paragraphs and the work we've done in class, so studying at home is optional. We will begin a new and exciting study of Westward Expansion after the assessment. We'll identify some early methods of transportation that people used to settle the west. We will learn about Robert Fulton and the steam engine. And, we'll learn about the importance of water transportation in settling the west as well.

In Core Knowledge Poetry, we'll learn the poems "Buffalo Dusk" and "Rudolph is Tired of the City." I've found this class finds a lot of joy in reading poetry!!

Our character trait this month is "Speak with good purpose." We're learning that words can build a person up or bring a person down. We will be performing in the skit at this month's character assembly on Friday, November 18th at 8:00 with the Middle Schoolers. We met with the Middle Schoolers last Friday to discuss our skit, and we'll come back together this Friday to practice. We'll be voting on our Character Winner this week as well.

In science, we continue to study simple machines. We will name all the types of simple machines (screw, wheel and axle, lever, pulley, inclined plane, and wedge). We'll focus on inclined planes and pulleys this week.

In Shurley, we continue to classify sentences and review the four parts of speech. We will learn about persuasive writing at the end of the week, and that'll carry over into next week.

In math this week, we will count quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies; we'll identify parallel line segments; we'll take an assessment; we'll add three-digit numbers and money amounts; and we'll estimate sums.

In closing, I want to thank you for taking the time to re-read the reading group assignment and Imagine It! story with your child each week! It makes a huge difference in your child's success!

Have a wonderful week!

Warmly,
Stacy Thompson