

Monday, January 2nd, 2012

Dear 2nd Grade Families,

Happy New Year to you all! Hope you've all had a wonderful and relaxing Christmas and break!

Just a reminder for those of you reading this letter via e-mail...our first day back after break is **Wednesday**, January 4th. Just a heads-up, Ms. Reyes (our P.E. and Kindergarten teacher) will be subbing in 2nd grade this Thursday as I will be attending a teacher's conference with Mrs. Cain in Denver. I'm excited to attend this conference and hope Mrs. Cain and I bring back some fun and engaging reading and writing ideas to the primary grades!

This week is a bookmobile week, so please have your child return their books to get new ones.

Our Imagine It! story this week is titled "Hungry Little Hare." On Wednesday please read pages 48-61 with your child, and on Thursday please read pages 62-73 with them. Due to our shortened week, our Imagine It! Lesson Assessment on "Hungry Little Hare" will be on Friday rather than Thursday.

Because we are behind schedule in our history studies, we will devote a lot of our time during this shortened week to this subject. We will continue the unit on the Civil War that we began before break. This week we will review what we've learned about slavery, Harriet Tubman, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Abe Lincoln. We'll build on our knowledge of Abe Lincoln, and we'll compare and contrast the two generals in the war: Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant. We will learn about the end of the war and the assassination of Lincoln. We'll also be reading a very interesting book about the history of the Statue of Liberty.

Going along with our history studies, in CK Poetry, we will read the poems "Lincoln" and "Harriet Tubman."

We will only spend a brief amount of time on science this week. We will be learning the biographies of Florence Nightingale and Elijah McCoy.

The remainder of our Science time will be dedicated to finishing a unit on Core Knowledge Fiction: Tall Tales. This week we will review the four characteristics of a tall tale, and we will read Paul Bunyon and John Henry. We will take notes as we read each story and then take our notes and write a paragraph summary.

In math this week, we will have an assessment, locate and graph points on a coordinate graph, and show and count back change for \$1.00.

Just a reminder, there is no spelling test scheduled for Wednesday the 3rd. We'll resume tests on Thursday the 4th.

In writing this week, we will focus on possessive nouns.

Hope your week is a wonderful one!

Warmly,
Stacy Thompson