



# Mrs. Jenoski's Newsletter December 2018

## Important Dates

- December 4<sup>th</sup> - Lily Book Mobile
- December 10<sup>th</sup> - PTG Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- December 12<sup>th</sup> - Governance Council @7:30 am
- December 13<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Show @9:30 am
- December 20<sup>th</sup>- Annual Craft-a-Thon
- December 21<sup>st</sup> - New Year Dance @ 1:15 pm (wear your pj's and New Year hat)
- December 24<sup>th</sup>-January 1<sup>st</sup> Holiday Break

## Birthdays

There are no birthdays in the month of December



## Classroom News



Can you believe that December is upon us?

It's hard to imagine that we have been in school together for over three months! The month of December is filled with much excitement with the WAMS Holiday Show, Craft-a-Thon, and Holiday Break. I want to take this time to thank you once again for the donations you made to the classroom to make these events a success, we truly could not do it without your help!

With the changes in weather, please make sure you are checking the forecast daily for proper clothing. Children do go outside at recess and gym as well. They are starting to need winter jackets, hats and gloves. Thank you for your cooperation!

Homework Update..... Your child should have regular homework in Guided Reading. This homework should include rereading the book or chapter(s) two times, as well as written response assignments weekly. Please be sure your child is practicing the current and review trick words sent home every Monday. They are assessed on these words weekly.

**Math Tip:** When adding three or more numbers, try to make a group of 10 first. Then count on to solve. These strategies help your child count more efficiently and develop fact fluency.

**Literacy Tip:** Close Reading of a text fosters deeper connections and ultimately higher levels of comprehension. To closely read a text, first read the text in its entirety. Then, go back and reread stopping often to ask and answer questions, make connections and identify text features.



**Math:** Please see the attached parent newsletter for math! This newsletter is meant to inform you of current concepts your child is working on in school. Thank you for your cooperation with the online math homework, using the paper keeps the children accountable for showing their thinking and rationale for solving problems.



**Snack:** Please remember to pack your child a healthy snack daily. We eat lunch very early and by the afternoon, the children are hungry. Please be sure that you pack only **ONE** snack that is peanut free.

**Holiday Show:** This year first grade will be performing together. Thank you to all families for sending in the money to purchase their t-shirts. I will have them ready for the day of the show with your child's name on the inside. Please dress your child in black pants such as leggings or sweatpants. Please make sure your child has sneakers on as well.



## What We're Learning

**Reading:** We have enjoyed exploring the Sun, Stars, Moon, and Earth! Your child has actively engaged in mini-inquiry units of study. Our "research" was based on their curiosity and wonders. We learned that we can find out information in many ways, and it was quite validating when we were able to confirm facts we thought we knew. We spent a short time going back in history to understand how the First Thanksgiving came about.

We will then take time to learn about holidays and traditions around the world. Our friend, *Globe Trot Scott*, will deliver packages to the classroom that include books and articles about holiday traditions being celebrated in countries all over the world. We will bring home a souvenir from each place we visit! Some of the countries we will visit are Mexico, Sweden, Italy, Germany, Africa, Israel, and England to name a few.

If you have a special holiday tradition you would like to share with us, please let me know. We welcome you to come into the classroom and share your family traditions.



**Writing:** In SRSD, we continue to work on Informative Writing. Your child is now able to read a non-fiction article and identify important details and facts. We developed anchor charts about what a good topic and ending must include.

Explicit modeling through class collaborative writes has to lead to amazing independent writing! After reading an article or text, your child is given a prompt. They read the prompt and ask themselves "What is the prompt asking me to do?" After completing an organizer, they begin writing. We are now able to go back into our writing and examine it for all parts, including rich language! Many students are now ready to write and say more about each fact.