

February News in Mrs. Taylor's Second Grade

Folktales

In English Language Arts, we have now moved on to a comparison study of folktales. We will begin studying similarities and differences among different versions of folktales such as *The Gingerbread Man*. From here, we will move on to read and compare Red Riding Hood and Cinderella stories from around the world. This is a nice way for students to continue to strengthen comparing and contrasting skills while also being introduced to different cultures. It will also provide a meaningful link to our social studies curriculum.

Welcome, Miss DeVito!

We are very fortunate to welcome Miss Danielle DeVito, an Anna Maria college student, into our classroom as a pre-practicum student teacher. Miss DeVito will be joining us on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays through May. She will be observing and assisting in classroom lessons and activities. Her time with us will culminate in planning and teaching two literacy-based lessons.

Mid-year Testing

As mentioned during parent-teacher conferences, mid-year assessments in both reading and math will be administered February into early March. Students will take the math and reading STAR tests for the second time as well as the B.A.S. reading assessment. Please contact me near the end of next month to schedule a meeting if you would like to go over your child's test scores. Unfortunately, I will not yet have access to new scores before second term report cards are scheduled to go home. New test scores will be noted and considered when grading in the third term.

Valentine's Day Celebration

A Valentine's Day lunch, book tasting raffle, and celebration will be held on Thursday, February 14th. Children will be decorating Valentine's Day mailboxes and may exchange cards. This is a nice opportunity to build our classroom community and practice our best printing! If you choose to send your child with cards, please be sure that all the children in the class are included and that your child has written out the cards herself. See the list of names below:

(Please see Mrs. Taylor should you need another copy of the class list of names for cards.)

February Dates to Remember

February 14 – Valentine Pass Out, Valentine Lunch & Book Tasting Raffle
February 15 - Scholastic Book Order Due
February 18-22 - February Vacation (No School)

