January Newsletter Mrs. Palumbo

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great vacation with your child. I want to thank all parents that took time to help your child complete their vacation activity log. Students were very excited to share all of their vacation fun!

I cannot thank you enough for all the thoughtful notes, cards, and gifts that I received before the holidays. I was left speechless! I really appreciate all of your generosity!

As always, if at any time you have questions, comments, or concerns please feel free to send a note, call, or email me at palumbom@worcesterschools.net.

Dates to Remember:

1– New Years Day

2– Progress Reports go home-please make sure to sign and return to school

7- Lilly– Book Mobile Visits

13– PTG Meeting 6:30pm

20– No School– MLK Jr. Day

24– FAME—SOFA Show

2/1– Winter Carnival—9-11am

Winter Carnival Volunteers Needed:

On Saturday, February 1st we will have our annual Winter Carnival from 9-11. We will need parent volunteers to help run our class game in 30 minute slots. Please let me know if you will be available to help out and I will begin to put a schedule together. Thank you!!!

Artist in Residence:

We are very excited to welcome Motoko to our school. Motoko will work with students throughout the month of January. Motoko will work with students using origami as a tool for exercising imagination, paying attention to details, and working cooperatively as a group. The 2nd Graders will make 2-dimensional figures from traditional origami repertoire and geometric shapes. Motoko will also work with the class to write a class story. In the story an animal character will overcome an antagonist by naming shapes correctly. Students will make a storyboard to follow the sequence of the story. Students will be able to share their storyboard at a culmination event scheduled for Tuesday, February 4th at 6pm. We are really excited for this opportunity.

January Newsletter

Mrs. Palumbo

Our Learning Focus– Every Student's Job

I think when I read, listen and look. I track my thinking to help me understand

I can explain and justify my thinking using what I've read, heard and seen.

ELA (English Language Arts)

Phonics: We will explore words with an open syllable and words that use y as a vowel. We will discuss when y is a consonant and when it is used as a vowel. We will also explore our new words and find the vowels in each of the words. We will then add suffixes to words that have an open syllable. We will talk about these different sounds and strategies to use while applying these sounds in reading and writing. We will continue to add bonus/trick words to our word wall each week.

Read Aloud/Read to Self: Recently we have been exploring author's purpose– inform, persuade, entertain. As we are reading we have been thinking about the purpose and using evidence from the text to support the purpose that we chose. We will also explore stories with deeper meaning/lesson. We will discuss a lesson that can learned from the story. Also, how we can use these lessons in our own life.

Writing: We will continue to use TREE/TIDE for opinion and informational writes. We will soon begin to write narrative stories. These stories will contain characters, setting, time, problem and solution. To get ready for this students will begin to chart these story elements from stories that we are reading. After read aloud students will complete our WWW (Who? Where? When?) and What?2 (What did the main character want to do? What happens then?) How?2 (How does the story end? How does the main character feel?) based on the read aloud. Using this planner will help to get students ready for writing a narrative. Students will use this planner to organize their thoughts before writing a narrative.

Math

We will begin the new year continuing to work on subtracting multi digit numbers. Students will continue to learn several strategies to subtract numbers such as using the number line, standard algorithm, drawing it out and using basic facts. We will also continue to solve a problem a couple of ways to check our work.

We will also continue to work on solving word problems. We have learned to reread the problem a few times. Underline/circle important information. Make sure to think about what the problem is asking you to do—add or subtract. We have been finding the key words that tell you this. We will also continue to work on drawing it out as well as solving to check our work. We will then write it out in a number sentence to show our answer.

Please continue to practice basic facts at home. We start each math lesson with fact fluency, we are becoming accurate and quick!!!!

Social Studies/Science:

Throughout the month we will discuss Martin Luther King Jr. and the impact that he made on the world. We will use several texts and articles to understand segregation and integration. We will also talk about the importance of the manner in which Dr. King worked towards these changes. He used his words to try to change people's minds peacefully.

We will also explore landforms around the world. We will talk about various landforms and where they are located. We will also research how landforms are formed. Students will then choose three landforms to create and label.

Important Reminders

Homework Folders go home Monday-Friday. Please make sure to check for homework and notices each day.

Read Every Night No Matter What!

It's important that each child is reading for at least 20 minutes each night.