

February Newsletter- Mrs Madaus' Preschool

It's amazing to think that we are now in the month of February! The students are in their groove now, managing routines and their own materials, and putting into practice what they have been learning.

During February and Black History Month we will be listening to different rhythms and musical styles of Black artists featured on Sesame Street that range from Ray Charles, Dizzy Gillespie, Usher, India Arie, Pharrell Williams, Destiny's Child, Ziggy Marley, and Will. I. Am. There is also a Jackson 5 video from The Ed Sullivan show and a video of Anika Noni Rose singing, "I Am Almost There" as her character Princess Tiana from the Disney movie The Princess and the Frog. All videos have been screened for preschool appropriate lyrics and are approved by the Worcester Public Schools. Please feel free to send in the name of a family favorite Black singer and/or song title that you would like to recommend.

The class will start a "Construction Zone" theme this week and meet the Benny Bear Alphafriend to learn about letter Bb. The next Alphafriend will be Mimi Mouse as we learn about the letter Mm. The students have been working very hard learning the alphabet letter names, producing the letter sounds, and improving their writing skills. It's an exciting time of year as the students' abilities expand and strengthen in the area of English Language Arts. Encourage your child at home when they show interest in pointing out letters they know or identifying initial sounds of words.

We will continue to broaden the students' knowledge of math concepts regarding numbers and quantity, ABC patterning, measurement and data collection, and oral counting. Science concepts during the month will include how things change during color mixing; stability when using different construction materials; and magnet exploration. When your child asks you questions of, "Why? or How?" turn it back on them. "What do you think?"

During February there will be opportunities to get a closer look at ourselves as individuals and think about ways we can strive to be better. As we prepare for Valentine's Day we will discuss ways that we can appreciate and celebrate each other's special qualities. What does it mean to give someone a "Shout Out" for their awesomeness? How do our words make them feel? How does it make us feel to be generous and kind to others?

Dates to Remember:

February 7th	2nd Quarter Report Cards will be sent home
February 11th	"Wear Red to School" day
February 14 th	Valentine's Day (more information to follow)
February 21st -25	No School: Winter Break