



# Room 2 News

## Contact Me

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# December 4-8, 2017

## Important Reminders

**NEW HASHTAG: #WINTER FUN** (Please bring in pictures of anything winter and/or the holidays!)

- Region Interview - due Tuesday, December 12
- Book Order - due Wednesday, December 13
- Christmas party information is in the Friday folder. We are asking that parents not attend this party, but please join us at the Clear Lake Sing-a-Long on Wednesday, December 20 @ 2:30 in the gym. We are making your presents and want to keep it a surprise! :)
- Please let me know ASAP if your child will be absent any days before or after winter break.
- Library books - due Tuesdays (students can renew if they want)
- Popcorn is being sold every Friday for 50 cents per bag.
- Santa Shop - Friday, December 15 in the morning.
- Early Release Day @ 12:15 on Friday, December 22
- No School - December 25 until January 7 (School resumes on Monday, January 8)
- December Reading Log - due Tuesday, January 9, 2018
- Be sure to check out [www.missrosenthal.com](http://www.missrosenthal.com) for class updates and a calendar. Please email or call if you have any questions and/or concerns.



**Reading Workshop** - We continued our second reading workshop unit titled, Reading the Weather, Reading the World. This unit is all about reading nonfiction! This week, readers noticed and tackled hard parts of nonfiction text, noticed when the text is hybrid, and figured out new vocabulary words. They also took a fiction comprehension test. Please **remind your child that he/she should read at least 20 minutes each night and record it on the December Reading Log homework.** If you have any questions about the reading homework, including book levels, please feel free to email me. Thanks so much for having book talks with your child and encouraging him/her to read aloud nightly. The only way to become a better reader is to read! We will be checking reading logs every Friday, so please make sure he/she keeps it in the homework pocket so he/she can earn classroom economy money!

**Writing Workshop** - We continued the nonfiction writing unit about regions. This writing unit goes perfectly with our next IB Unit of Inquiry (see below). Students learned that they can write about what they are studying by using strategies called, "questioning and wondering," "boxes and bullets," and "thinking and realizing." We also practiced language and grammar skills.

**Math** - We continued unit 3, which is all about division of whole numbers. This week we stepped away from the math book and practiced long division by using the traditional method. They will have a quick quiz next week. They took addition, subtraction, and multiplication quizzes. Please remember that math homework is due the following day and it is checked in class together. Students usually complete the "remembering" side in class and then they usually complete the "homework" side at home. All of the papers for the entire unit stay in the math pocket. The only homework is what is placed in the homework pocket and written in the planner. Please check your child's math homework using the answer key on our classroom website. Students must practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts at home for a few minutes each night. We are having timed quizzes on the facts (except division) each week. It is essential that students know the basic facts (+ - x) very quickly so that they can master multi-digit division, a 4th grade standard.

**Word Work** - We continued word study this week. There are three word work groups (yellow, green, and blue), which are based on the students' spelling level. Ask your child about the speed sort, blind sort, gluing the sort, and assessment. All word work is done in class, but each student will receive a list of their words to practice at home. Students are expected to know the patterns, how to spell the words, where the words belong, and apply those pattern skills to new words. We continued high frequency word (HFW) assessments this week. Please have your child keep the high frequency word packet in the spelling pocket. Each Monday we will write the test date next to the words. This week they had the assessment on words #56-60. I am noticing that students are still struggling with memorizing the high frequency words. It is crucial that these words are studied for a few minutes a night to ensure correct spelling when they are writing everyday. Thank you so much for all of your help with the HFW! Please remember that if your child gets 3 or more wrong, he/she will have HFW homework the following week.

**Social Studies** - Mrs. Waffenschmidt traveled all the way to Asia and visited Mt. Fuji in Japan! The students loved learning about the world around them! Check out all of the global resources on [www.missrosenthal.com](http://www.missrosenthal.com)

**Olweus Anti-Bully Meetings** - We continued our anti-bully meetings this week by looking closely at the bullying circle. Your child has a copy in his/her traveling folder.

**Unit of Inquiry** - We finished our government unit by played Jeopardy and taking the test. We also began our third unit of inquiry, which is titled "The Dividing Line." The unit focuses on our central idea: Characteristics facilitate learning. During this unit we will focus on the regions of the United States and all characteristics when learning new information. This week students created their dream rooms and we discussed the regions within each room. Ask you child about the fun number activity! They also learned some of the physical and human characteristics of the regions in the United States. The final summative assessment for this unit will be a region report. Students will be completing all parts of the report in school during writing workshop. Ask your child to share the region packets that we have been doing in class with you. We focused on the IB Attitude enthusiasm this week. After reading books and learning about this word, the students created a paper quilt. Be sure to look for the quilts in the hallway. We discussed how the students enjoy learning about the different United States regions! **The region interview homework was sent home this week and is due on Tuesday.**

IB  
Attitude

ENTHUSIASM  
Enjoying learning.