



Room 2 News



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Important Reminders

#WINTERFUN (Please bring in pictures of anything winter and/or the holidays!)

- No School - Monday, January 15
- January Reading Log - due Wednesday, January 31
- Popcorn is being sold every Friday for 50 cents per bag.
- Please email or call if you have any questions and/or concerns.
- Please make sure that your child is wearing appropriate clothing for outdoor recess, including coats, hats, gloves, boots, and snow pants.
- Be on the lookout for the Valentine party letter & Lansing fieldtrip info. within the next few weeks.
- Be sure to check out www.missrosenthal.com for class updates and a calendar.



Reading Workshop - We continued our second reading workshop unit titled, Reading the Weather, Reading the World. This week, readers learned how to summarize and planned for research projects. They also had extra research time. Please remind your child that he/she should read at least 20 minutes each night and record it on the January reading homework log. I am going to check home reading logs each Friday. If you have any questions about the reading homework, please feel free to email me. Thanks so much for having book talks with your child and encouraging him/her to read nightly and helping your child find the levels of the books he/she is reading. We also had the Battle of the Books assembly. Please contact the Oxford Public Library with any questions.

Writing Workshop - We continued our nonfiction writing unit about regions. This writing unit goes perfectly with our next IB Unit of Inquiry (see below). Each student has one of the following regions: Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, Pacific, and Rocky Mountain. This week students researched and wrote about the landforms and bodies of water, climate, economic activity (jobs), vegetation, and natural resources within their region. We also practiced language and grammar skills. All of the research and writing of the report will be done in class. **However, if you child would like to print off information or pictures from the internet and bring it to school, they are more than welcome and encouraged to do so.**

Math - We started unit 4, which is all about equations and word problems. This week students learned about algebraic notation and situation and solution equations. They had a quick quiz. 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 that was sent home via email earlier this year. 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 4th grade standards.

Word Work - I gave the students a spelling inventory to determine his/her spelling group the week before break. Your child's word work group may have changed. 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 writing the sort and the task card. 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 #71-75. I am noticing that students are still struggling with spelling the HFW correctly in their everyday writing. 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 the Panama Canal in Panama. Be sure to check out the Little Passport games on our classroom website!

Unit of Inquiry - We continued 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. We watched videos about the three remaining regions and they drew pictures while listening to music from those regions. Students will have quizzes throughout the unit to ensure understanding of the concepts. Encourage your child to teach you his/her region notes nightly. The final summative assessment for this unit will be a report. Students will be completing all parts of the report in school during writing workshop. Ask your child to share the region packet that we have been doing in class with you. We focused on the IB Learner Profile thinker this week. We read many books and learned about thinking before we act.

IB

Learner Profile

THINKER

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems.
We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.