

March 1, 2010

Dear Parents and Students,

Too bad we couldn't add a little blue raspberry flavor to all of the slush on the roads and driveways, and you would have quite a few slushies to share. Don't leave your boots at home or you will sink into the mud that is oozing all over our fields and playground.

Hip Hip Hooray for Miss Syd-a-nay! Sydney was a wonderful reader as she sat in the reader's chair on Friday afternoon, moving her hands and speaking little bits of Italian scattered throughout the book, Strega Nona Meets Her Match. Students enjoyed listening to your wonderful reading, Miss Bridger. You worked hard to read and reread that challenging book with such fluency and expression. You made your audience laugh when the character, Bambolona, hit Big Anthony with her purse. I am proud of your amazing read-aloud voice.

Miss Olivia Hatch has been our wonderful classroom helper these past days of school. Thank you, Olivia, for always showing such enthusiasm for every task you do. When Olivia is called to a duty, she jumps as high as the big bad wolf when his tail touches the pot of boiling water. Arooooooooooooo!

We designed and shared some beautiful math portfolio pockets for our next project. We will be measuring different sizes of art paper using standard and nonstandard units of measurement as we create some beautiful artwork. Last week, we discussed the five elements of shape. Do you remember what they were?

Our first art project will be about the one and only Dr. Seuss's books. Thinking about and using the five elements of shape, students will make an advertisement of a book by Dr. Seuss. Let's read some of his wonderful books together on his birthday tomorrow. Happy Birthday, Theodore Geisel!

We are reading some twisted fairy tales and solving word problems about each story. You are great thinkers, students! Students are moving and grooving on the speed tests, too. It takes a lot of practice to add and subtract facts in lickety-split time.

Last Wednesday morning, students attended a wonderful performance with colorful characters like Jigsaw Jones and all of his friends that figured out the mystery by singing their way through their problems and successes. You were a great audience, students!

Students are continuing to share their mini-autobiographies at the end of writing workshop each morning. Wowie Kazowie! You can write, second graders! I have enjoyed conferencing with students and discussing how to add more specific details to their pieces. Our mini-lessons, this week, will focus on sentence structure and using a variety of sentences to spice up our writing.

Mrs. Nichols has been working with students on a dental health unit. Students also wrote about the time they lost their first teeth. Remember to take good care of your teeth, and they will last a lifetime for a bright, white smile.

We played Spelling Tic Tac Toe on Friday morning to practice our words with the long e sound. Whenever we have a few minutes of free time, we practice our words with a friendly game of Hangman. The more words we know, the more fluent we become in our writing. Then, we can get down to the business of writing great stories. This week, students will practice words with the long i sound.

Our days are filled with learning, songs, and great discussions. Do your best work this week. Be kind to others, my wonderful students.

Mrs. Forgue