



# FRIDGE NOTES

## Mrs. McBride's Class Family

December 16<sup>th</sup> – December 20<sup>th</sup>

The 2nd grade winter party is THIS Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:30. We will be rotating through different activities, so the more parent help, the better! Please mark the date on your calendar and come celebrate with us!

Winter break begins Monday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. We return to school on Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>. See you in 2014! ☺

Winter break is the perfect opportunity to get in some extra reading time. The students have been working hard to ALL meet their AR goals this marking period. We are shooting for 100% and we are definitely on our way towards achieving that! Rereading a book several times is the best way to ensure strong comprehension, so break out your favorite books and read, read, read!

Congratulations to last week's Principal's Award winner, SuSu!

### Important Dates

Friday, December 20<sup>h</sup>-  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Winter Party  
9:30-11:30

### Reading

This week we will be reading one of the Common Core exemplar texts, *Poppleton in Winter*. The book is structured more like a chapter book and actually includes three short stories. The students will independently read one chapter per day and work on identifying problems and solutions. They will also compare and contrast Poppleton's character traits in each of the stories. This will give the students the opportunity to practice some of the skills we've been working on since the beginning of the school year.

### Math

We are finishing our unit on 2-digit subtraction. This week we will focus on solving two-step word problems that involve both 2-digit addition and 2-digit subtraction. We are trying to break the students of the habit of seeing numbers in a word problem and just quickly throwing them into an equation. Instead, they should be analyzing the problem and really thinking about the situation that is being presented in order to form a plan to solve the problem.

We will review for the chapter test on Wednesday and test on Thursday.

### Writing

This week in writing we are focusing on idioms, both understanding them in books we read and using them to make our own writing more interesting. We will discuss the difference between the literal meanings and the figurative meanings of some of the most common idioms, such as "hold your horses" and "piece of cake." Later in the week, it will be snowing idioms in our classroom when each student decorates a snowflake to explain the meaning of a popular expression.

### Science & Social Studies

Now that the students are familiar with properties of matter and the 3 states of matter, we will begin to explore changes in matter. We will observe the difference between changing the properties of matter (tearing a piece of paper) versus changing the state of matter (solid to liquid, liquid to gas).