



FRIDGE NOTES

Mrs. McBride's Class Family

January 6th – January 10th

It's 2014 and we are back and ready to learn! Hopefully all of our brains are well-rested and re-energized. I'm so excited for a new year of exploration and growth!

Many parents comment on the jump in work and expectations that occurs around this time of year in 2nd grade. You may notice that the difficulty of the material increases in order to prepare the students for the transition to 3rd grade. I know that all our students are well-prepared for the work ahead and that they will continue to grow and have fun learning. In other words, do not fear! ☺ If, however, you ever have a concern that your child is beginning to struggle, please do not hesitate to contact me or schedule a conference.

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

Important Dates

Thursday, January 9-
Papa John's Spirit Night

Reading

This week we will learn about determining importance as we read. We will start with a more concrete example of classifying items in a suitcase as "important," "interesting, but not very important" and "unimportant." Then, we will transfer this idea to details in an informational text. In order to be considered important, the details must relate back to the main topic.

Our phonics skill will be the long-e sound with vowel digraphs *ee* and *ea*. For vocabulary, we will learn about parts of a dictionary entry in order to look up the meanings of unknown words.

Writing

We will learn about adding dialogue to our writing and using quotations marks to show someone's exact words. This is a difficult skill because there is a lot to remember in terms of capitalization and punctuation placement!

We will also work on writing New Year's resolutions. The students will use several different future-tense sentence stems to tell what they would like to do in 2014.

Math

In math, we are kicking off the new year with a new unit! Chapter 6 will focus on adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers. We will use a variety of strategies, including models and pictures, mental math and paper-and-pencil. We will also transfer our knowledge of regrouping from 2-digit numbers over to these larger numbers.

Science & Social Studies

In honor of New Year's Day, we will learn about Chinese New Year and compare and contrast it to our American New Year. We will then move onto a new social studies unit on the contributions of different groups of Americans, such as African Americans, Hispanics and veterans.