



# FRIDGE NOTES

Mrs. McBride's Class Family

January 13<sup>th</sup> – January 17<sup>th</sup>

On Wednesday, your child will be bringing home a special snowman book report. This time they will read a fiction story and use the snowman's body to recount the story using beginning, middle and end. Examples of past projects will be posted on the class blog towards the middle of the week. Please make sure your child picks a book on his/her level and writes in complete sentences with capital letters and punctuation. Since we are working on recounting, we want the students to retell the story in their own words without copying from the text. If your child is struggling with this, close the book and have him/her just talk to you about what happened. In class we use the "think it, say it, write it" format. Sometimes saying it out loud first really helps with putting it on paper.

This weekend will be a 4-day weekend! This Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup> is a Teacher Workday and Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup> is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

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

## Important Dates

Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>-  
Teacher Workday/NO SCHOOL

Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>-  
MLK Day/NO SCHOOL

## Reading

This week we will read a biography about Helen Keller. Going along with last week's focus on determining importance, the students will select important information from the text to include on a biography tree map. The biography genre is a new one for many students and I encourage you to check out some more biographies from the public library!

Our phonics skill will be the long-o sound with digraphs *ow* and *oa*. For vocabulary, we will add the suffix *-ly* ("in a certain way") to our list of prefixes and suffixes.

## Writing

After reading about Helen Keller, we will use the information from our tree maps to write a short informational text about her. We will use a "Magic Who" frame to summarize what we learned and explain why she is an amazing person worth learning about!

## Math

Last week was spent adding 3-digit numbers. We broke the concept down into small chunks so the students really mastered each step. I was so impressed with how easily the students transferred their knowledge from 2-digit addition over to 3-digit addition. This week we will work on subtracting 3-digit numbers, which is always more difficult, especially when you have to regroup twice. As usual, number stories will be incorporated with each skill and we are continuing to work on identifying and solving those tricky 2-step problems!

## Science & Social Studies

This week we will do a brief "sneak peak" of our next science unit on energy. We will begin the unit by learning about some of the different forms of energy, including solar, sound, wind and electricity. The end of January and all of February are jam-packed with special social studies units, so we will pick up this science unit again in March.