



FRIDGE NOTES

Mrs. McBride's Class Family

December 8th – December 12th

We are busy, busy, busy filling these last two weeks before winter break with lots of learning! Looking ahead, 2nd grade will be having its holiday party next Friday, December 19th from 9:30-11:30. The room parents are working together to plan a fun party for the entire grade level. Be on the lookout for an email or letter with details on things you can donate or ways you can help. You can also contact our wonderful room parent, Catherine Brewer (Lloyd's mom), for more information (mrsbrewer0712@yahoo.com).

This week is all about maps and globes and I found a couple of great apps to help you support your child's learning at home: "Atlas of the World" and "Globe for iPad." Both of these apps are interactive and allow you to click on specific locations to read additional information. I know the kids would LOVE to explore with these at home! The more they look at maps and globes, the more familiar they will become with the names and locations of important places (see Social Studies for specifics.)

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

Important Dates

Friday, December 19-
2nd Grade Holiday Party
9:30-11:30

Reading

This week we are integrating reading and social studies by reading an informational text about the 7 continents. We will focus on using non-fiction text features (headings, photographs, captions, bold print, etc.) to help us locate important information within the text.

Our phonics skill this week will be base words with *-s* and *-es* endings. For vocabulary, we will learn the meanings of the prefixes pre- (before) and mis- (wrongly).

Writing

In writing we will work on creating compound sentences. We will join 2 shorter sentences together using words like "and," "but," "so," and "or." I call these words "cohesive ties" and we will experiment with different ways to "tie" sentences together and make our writing less choppy. I will also be stressing that these words come in the MIDDLE of a sentence. It can be so difficult to break the habit of beginning sentences with "and!"

Math

I was so proud of the students' hard work throughout our last unit on addition with regrouping. It was a unit where everything really "clicked." For Chapter 5, we will take the concept of regrouping and carry it over to subtraction. As with 2-digit addition, we will begin by exploring a variety of strategies for 2-digit subtraction, including using tens frames, number lines and hundred charts. Then, we will use base-10 blocks to model the concept of "borrowing" and trading 1 ten for 10 ones (the reverse of what we did in addition).

Science & Social Studies

In addition to reading about the 7 continents, we will also work on labeling them on a world map. But we won't stop there! We will take it a step further and label the 5 oceans, the North and South Poles, the Equator, and the Prime Meridian.

In science, will spend the week examining properties of specific solids, liquids and gases. We will perform several experiments to help us create strong definitions for each state of matter.