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

Thank you for all the special Valentine's Day and birthday treats! I enjoyed reading each of the sweet and thoughtful cards, and I was blown away by all the special presents I received. A big thank you to Mrs. Brewer for my surprise party, complete with a huge Gator balloon display, Gator birthday cake, and ice cream cups for all the kids. Mrs. Dinnie also came in to take pictures of all the kids with her fancy camera. What a fun day!

Progress Reports go home this Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Please don't hesitate to schedule a conference with me if you have any questions or concerns.

Progress Reports also mean that we should be halfway to our AR goals. Make sure you check Renaissance Home Connect to see how your child is progressing this marking period.

IMPORTANT DATES Monday, February 16-

Presidents Day- NO SCHOOL

Friday, March 6-Spring Picture Day

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### Reading

Mrs. McBride's Class Family

This week we are integrating reading and social studies by reading an informational article about some famous African Americans that we celebrate during Black History Month. We will work on identifying the main idea of the entire text (the whole pizza), as well as the main idea of each paragraph (the pizza slices). We will use our "topic + point = main idea" formula and color-coding to help us think through the text.

Our phonics skill will be week is words with the long-i sound (*i*, *igh*, *ie*). For vocabulary, we will learn about antonyms (hot/cold) and how we can use them to increase our understanding of a word's meaning.

## Math

Our new math unit focuses on measuring length in customary units. We will begin by estimating and measuring to the nearest inch. The students will use inch models (tiles) before moving on to actual rulers. This helps develop the concept of an inch, which is actually the space between the lines on a ruler, not the lines themselves. This idea is often missed if we jump straight to rulers. It also provides the students with a visualization of what an inch looks like, which helps them make more accurate estimations.

## writing

This week we will begin working on editing and revising our narrative stories about our field trip to Sea World. The students have worked so hard on their drafts, and now it is time to make them even better. We will be editing COPS who arrest Capitalization, Out Loud Quality, Punctuation, and Spelling mistakes. To revise, we will **ARRR** like pirates by Adding, Replacing, Removing, and Rearranging things in our stories.

# science e social studies

This week in science we are continuing to experiment with different forces, including friction, gravity, and magnets.

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