



# FRIDGE NOTES

Mrs. McBride's Class Family

May 11<sup>th</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>

I had such a wonderful and special Teacher Appreciation week. All of the flowers, treats and cards were so thoughtful and it was fun being showered with all my favorite things. Thank you all for making me feel so appreciated and valued! I really think I have the BEST job and I truly enjoy coming to work each day!

On Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, we will switch lunchtimes with 5<sup>th</sup> grade and eat from 11:55-12:20.

2<sup>nd</sup> grade will have its Field Day this Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. I will have the awesome tie dye shirts Mrs. Brewer made in the classroom for the students to change into when they arrive at school. I didn't want any of the kids to accidentally forget to wear theirs! There will be water games, so please send your child to school wearing clothes and shoes that can get wet. Boys may wear swim trunks and girls may wear bathing suits under clothing that is in dress code. Please also apply sunscreen at home. **Here are some other things to send to school with your child:**

- water bottle
- hat
- towel
- dry change of clothes
- bag to put wet clothing in

## IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, May 12-  
Lunch Change 11:55-12:20

Wednesday, May 13-  
2<sup>nd</sup>/ 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Day

## Reading

This week we read an informational text by Gail Gibbons. She is one of the most well-known authors of non-fiction books for children. I highly recommend looking for some of her books next time you visit the library or book store. The particular text we will be reading includes several diagrams, so we will focus on how this special text feature adds to our understanding of the text.

Our phonics skill will be vowel diphthongs *ou* and *ow*, like in the words "cow" and "house." For vocabulary, we revisit "shades of meaning" and work on using context clues to select the best synonym for a sentence.

## Writing

This week we will work on using possessive nouns. The concept of possession can be difficult for many students to understand. We introduce the concept by changing sentences from "He borrowed the pencil of John" or "He borrowed the pencil that belongs to John" into "He borrowed John's pencil." One of the tricky things about this concept is that it can cause students to start over-using apostrophes. Once students learn about adding the 's, they tend to start using it for everything (particularly plural words that add *s* at the end). It is important to distinguish between plurals and possessives. Please check your child's writing carefully at home to make sure he/she is not making this mistake.

## Math

We have officially finished the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade math curriculum! That means we have a few weeks to continue to review some of the more difficult 2<sup>nd</sup> grade skills, such as regrouping, time and money. It also means that we can begin preparing for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade math. This week we will learn about estimating sums and difference by rounding. We will learn how to round numbers to the nearest ten and hundred. The standard rule is that "4 and under stays the same... 5 and up, add one is the game!" (4 $\underline{3}$  rounds to 40, but 4 $\underline{8}$  rounds up to 50). It makes more sense we do the whole little rhyme, which I will post on the class blog. ☺

## Science & Social Studies

Our reading text this week, *From Seed to Plant*, includes directions for a fun science experiment that we will complete in class. We will follow the steps in the text to help us observe the life cycle of a lima bean plant. We love being able to make these types of reading-science connections!