



2nd Grade News

December 11th– December 15th

This week we will take our second iReady Diagnostic test of the year. In class, we will work on setting personal goals, as well as discussing the target scores. Please review important testing taking strategies with your child, such as reading all directions, taking your time, double checking answers, and trying your best. I know the kids have already grown so much this year and I want to make sure their iReady data reflects that!

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

Important Dates

December 11th, 12th, 14th, 15th–
iReady Winter Diagnostic Testing

Wednesday, December 20th–
Holiday Party 12:40–end of day

Friday, December 22nd–
Friday, January 5th–
Winter Break/No School

Reading/ Language Arts

This week we will begin reading an informational text about trees. The text features several diagrams, so we will focus on how this special text feature adds to our understanding of the text. We will discuss how we can gather new information from a diagram that is not included in the words, or how a diagram can help clarify and deepen what we already read. If you come across a diagram in one of your informational texts at home, try asking these questions:

- *What is this diagram about?*
- *How would you use this diagram to locate information?*
- *How does this diagram make information easier to find and understand?*

Our phonics skills will be compound words and words with the schwa vowel sound (along, happen, dragon). A schwa sound occurs in 2 syllable words where one syllable is softer and the vowel doesn't make the long sound or the short sound.

In writing, we will write our own informational texts using facts and definitions from the book we are reading this week.

Math

Last week we started adding 3-digit numbers. We broke the concept down into small chunks using multiple strategies 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 begin working on subtracting 3-digit numbers, which is always more difficult, especially when you have to regroup twice.

Science & Social Studies

In social studies, we are learning about the contributions of various African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, veterans, and women. We will read about famous scientists and inventors who changed the world.