

Dear Families,

Beginning this week we will highlight 2 words of the week, much like we have done all year with letters of the week. After the first of the year students will be responsible for spelling these words correctly. The goal is that all students will be able to fluently read AND write all 30 kindergarten words. This week's words are you and me. We are also focusing on vowel sounds - which tend to be very tricky for 5 and 6 year olds. Students know that vowels make 2 sounds (long and short).

Don't forget that Scholastic book orders are due to me by Wednesday, December 4th. This will guarantee delivery by Christmas break. If you wish to order and use the books as a gift, just let me know and I will make arrangements for you to pick them up in the office. Our Scholastic class code is L7LXF.

The month of December will go by quickly. We only have 3 weeks left in this second quarter with report cards going home just after the first of the year. I will try to keep the holiday activities contained and focused on learning for as long as I can. I do have several fun activities planned for the last few days of school that I will need parents help. I am looking for 2 or 3 parents to help with our Polar Express day. This would be Thursday, December 19th from 9am - 11:30. Then our holiday party is planned for Friday, December 20th. We do not have the school wide assembly scheduled yet but you can pencil in a small party that Friday morning. If you are available to help (9:00 - 10:15), please let me know. I wanted to let you know soon enough in case you need to make work arrangements.

"Santa's watching" is what my mother always said each Christmas season. Well, that was a looong time ago. Now they have The Elf on the Shelf to help Santa. Our class will meet our elf scout on Friday. It really is a cute story and ideal for the holidays. After reading the book we will name our classroom elf. Hopefully the Elf will help keep classroom behaviors in check.

Our social studies concept to end the quarter is appropriate for the season. Students need to identify the difference between wants and needs. This is such a hard concept for 5 and 6 year olds. We will talk about how you NEED clothes, a house/shelter, food (healthy) and water. The wants include new toys, a computer, junk food, fancy cars. I know, I can be pretty convincing when I "want" something. . . but the students become extra creative when justifying their wants into needs.

Picture retake day is Friday. Marco Photo will do whatever it takes to make sure you are 100% satisfied. If you would like for your child's picture to be retaken just send in their picture packet with them Friday and they will retake their photo.

Just a reminder that students have gym class each Monday and Wednesday. Many students are NOT prepared with the proper gym style shoes. Students who are wearing outside winter boots are not able to participate in gym. Please be sure to pack their shoes to change into each day that they wear boots. It is hard to sit on the carpet when wearing bulky boots. Students may also want to bring snow pants to keep warm and dry when there is snow on the ground.

I think that is all for now. The end of the second quarter is fast approaching and I wanted to keep you informed on what we are working on. Have a great week.

Mrs. Finn