

December 12, 2013

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the month of December. By far the fastest month on record!!! It will be nice to meet with all of you during conferences. Your children are doing well and are very busy!

We are nearing the end of our second theme in reading and will begin theme three, Around Town: Neighborhood and Community after the holidays. We will read a variety of stories centered on different communities. We will continue to focus on comprehension skills, making pertinent judgements and summarizing. We will learn about main idea and supporting details and make predictions based on accurate information from our reading selections. The phonics focus during this month will be words with “th”, “wh”, “sh” and “ch” and more long a words.

In math we are in the midst of place value with higher numbers. We have also just finished 2 digit addition and subtraction without regrouping and will start 2 digit addition with regrouping! I’m saving subtraction with trading or borrowing a much more difficult concept for after the holidays. The children are continually exposed to many different math concepts in our Common Core Curriculum. It’s exciting to see how well they are doing! I am truly amazed every day!

During this month we will finish up our unit on Native Americans. In second grade the focus is on three groups of Native Americans. We have already talked about the Eastern Woodland Indians and are now learning about the Plains. We have one more group to go; the Southwest Indians, which we will finish before the holidays.

We are reading Tomie de Paola’s autobiographical chapter books and are currently reading the seventh book in the series; Why? We end our morning meetings with a chapter of these wonderful memories from Tomie.

I hope that all of you have a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,  
*Linda*

**Happy December Birthday to:**  
**Taylor on the 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**Emmalynn on the 29<sup>th</sup>**

