

Funderburk Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter

Vol. 2, Weeks of September 30 – October 14, 2019

Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow. – Helen Keller

Upcoming Dates of Interest

- **CFC Read-A-Thon Fundraiser** –September 23 – October 4th
- **CFC Harvest Festival** - Saturday October 5, 2:00-4:00 PM
- **No School: Professional Day/Indigenous People's Day/Columbus Day** – Fri. October 11 – Mon. October 14
- **Community For Coffin Meeting** - Tuesday October 15, 6:30 PM
- **Walk/Bike to School Day - Friday October 18**
- **Fort Western Field Trip** - Monday October 21, all of Multi-age will travel together

Last Week, This Week (and Next Week) We're Working on...

- **Reading: Building Good Reading Habits, Growing our Reading Skills**
 - Finished assessing students' start-of-year reading: groups and individual conference plan begins this week
 - Words are tricky...roll up our sleeves and try strategies
- **Social Studies/Study Groups**
 - Last week, we finished our first visit of the year into the other classrooms
 - This week, we'll read a book titled *Ox Cart Man* - about an early 19th century family in Portsmouth and how they use, trade and make tools, food, & clothing. This will lead nicely into our "Now & Then" field trip to Ft. Western.
 - In our room, we'll compare, contrast, & identify *Ox Cart Man* materials/tools/food from long ago and now
- **Woods Walk/Outdoor Explore**
 - We've been focusing on having "deer ears", "eagle eyes", & "stalking feet" outdoors while drawing like a scientist (realistic pictures) using our journals
 - Expectations while outdoor is to stay with the group, leave nature in its place, respect nature, and remember that our purpose is different from recess. We will have specific goals and focus while outdoors.
 - This week, we introduce the woods space to the side of the Jr. High and will practice sitting in the woods in the moment while journaling what we notice. We've really enjoyed these opportunities.
- **Word Work/Handwriting/Spelling:**
 - **Handwriting** – Reviewing our "frog Jump" capitals - capitals to go back to the top (for example: B, E, F, D)
 - Capitals usually at the top
- **1st Grade Math:** Chapter 2 - Number Bonds
- **2nd Grade Math:** Continuing Chapter 1 – Numbers to 1,000

Classroom & School Updates

- We have a new first grade student starting on Monday (9/30) - let's remember to welcome her on her first week, be at during recess, lunch, D/A or in the classroom. Let's help her with routines and remember to be a welcoming friend.
- On Friday, Coffin School experimented with our **1st morning outdoor time before school**. The hope is to continue this.
- Multilingual Mainers - All students this year during a lunch period will be given the chance to practice a new language as a fluent Bowdoin student reads *Harold and the Purple Crayon* in another language. I'll let you know when our turn occurs.
- [KinderKonzert field trip](#) to Brunswick High School w/ the PSO (woodwind, brass, string, percussion) starts on December 5
- **Fire Safety** will occur on Thursdays every other month
- **Math tutors, BHS volunteers, and volunteering in the classroom** - We have 2 BHS students volunteering 2-3 x per week, a Bowdoin Math tutor, and opportunities for YOU to volunteer. Reach out to me with your availability/preference. Apply [HERE](#)
- **Applesauce Day** - After reading *Applesauce Day*, we hope to tie in Fall traditions while heating some fresh apples this week
- [Field Trip to Fort Western in Augusta, ME](#) -Lunch will be at school upon return, chaperone volunteers have been contacted
- **CFC Read-A-Thon**
 - We'll have a guest reader visit this week to read to our class
 - Check out [CFC's Facebook page](#) or search: Community For Coffin for more details on the fundraiser
- **Open House** - Thank you for visiting our *final Open House at Coffin School (next year we will not be here)* - an estimated 1,000-1,500 people came through the doors. We easily had nearly 100 cross through our classroom doors
- **Classroom Celebration** – Toy day (small) or Stuffy Day will be voted on this Monday, likely for Tuesday, will be in touch

Questions? Contact Mr. Funderburk at efunderburk@brunswick.k12.me.us or 319-1950 or by note. All class newsletters are also available 24/7 at <http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/efunderburk/classroom-newsletters>