

# Funderburk Multi-Age Classroom Newsletter

## Vol. 3, Weeks of October 14 – October 28, 2019

*"I know there is strength in the differences between us. I know there is comfort, where we overlap."*  
-Ani DiFranco, singer/songwriter

### Upcoming Dates of Interest

- **Thursday October 31** – School Wide PJ Day
- **Tuesday November 5** - No School – Election Day/Professional Development
- **Monday November 11** – No School -Veteran's Day observed
- **Tuesday November 12** – Picture Retake Day-*send a note if you'd like your child to retake their picture*
- **Friday November 21** - Class Scholastic Book Orders due (arriving this week)
- Tuesday November 20 **Early Release Day** (1:10 PM Dismissal) – **Parent/ Teachers Conferences**
- **Wednesday November 21 –Friday November 23** No School – Conferences/Thanksgiving Break

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

**Reading:** Students can be Word Detectives, Paying Attention to Author's Purpose/Lessons

**Writing:** This past week, students were given 2 days to write their best small moment story about our Fort Western Field Trip. Although we're only 8 weeks removed from the start of the year, I'm already seeing lots of growth in stamina, writing volume, voice, ideas, and handwriting. Great work!

- This week & next: Revising, editing, rewriting - rereading, using checklists, and finding ways to make our writing even better

#### Social Studies/Study Groups

- This week - retelling *Ox Cart Man* in steps using a flip book

#### Woods Walk/Outdoor Explore

- Last week: Seed Dispersal - seeds travel in many ways
- This week, in place of our Woods Walk, we'll visit the computer lab for the 2nd time to explore PIXIE - a program for practicing basic computer skills - embedding text, images, art design, and more.
- The cooler weeks are upon us. We will be outside for over 75 minutes on Tuesdays (and 45+ minutes other days), so send in weather appropriate coats/jackets. It's also a good idea to keep a change of clothing (socks/underwear/pants) in backpack for that rare moment when clothing may get too muddy or wet. A couple times this week, students had wet socks/shoes.

#### Word Work/Handwriting/Spelling

- **Handwriting** – Magic "c" letters continued - c, s, o, g, a, d
- **Making Words** - 1st gr. - world families (ed, en, et, op, sp, plural adding -s), 2nd gr. - (contractions)

**1st Grade Math:** Chapter 4 - Subtraction to 10 - strategies to subtract - cross out, count back, draw pictures, use number bonds

**2nd Grade Math:** Continuing Chapter 2 – + & - to 1,000 - adding and subtracting with and without regrouping

### Classroom & School Updates

- **Guidance** - This past Tuesday, Mrs. Watson visited to share with students to "Stop, Look, and Listen" as part of our ALICE training (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate). Students now know to immediately follow directions no matter how unusual the direction may be. Our first safety drill of the year will occur in a couple weeks.
- **Our Fort Western** field trip was an incredible experience - We spun cotton, learned about bedding long ago, chopped kindling wood, and experienced what it was like in the parlor room, tasting cinnamon toast as an ending activity. The Fort in Augusta is open for visits on weekends. We enjoyed our time. Great connection to what we've been learning.
- Coffin School Library has an **"I'm Your Neighbor" Traveling Library** through November 6 - immigration-themed
  - I'm Your Neighbor Books is a nonprofit organization located in Portland that uses picture books to build bridges.
  - Our classroom has checked out the books **Dreamers, I'm New Here, & Someone New**
  - Parents may check-out any of the "I'm Your Neighbor Books" between now and November 6.
  - After the collection leaves Coffin, it will be at the H.B. Stowe library through November 22.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences** are around the corner. Be on the lookout next **Monday November 4th** and you will receive both an e-mail link and a paper copy to sign up for parent/teacher conferences (**only need to sign up 1 way**) Our dates to meet will be: **Monday November 25 (4-6 PM)**, **Tuesday November 26th (1:30pm-evening)** and **Wednesday November 27 (8am - 12pm)** Need another time? Let me know on the paper form. We'll work it out!

**Questions? Contact Mr. Funderburk at [efunderburk@brunswick.k12.me.us](mailto: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>**