

First Grade News

January 13 - 17, 2020

Welcome to the second half of First Grade! It's exciting to think that we are closer to being **SECOND** Graders than we are to being **KINDERGARTNERS!** (But I understand that's a little bittersweet for parents. 😊)



After reading many excellent biographies and viewing a couple of wonderful short, but informative, videos about the life and contribution of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we have become authorities on his extraordinary life. How cool it was to read and learn about him through the words of Scholastic News!

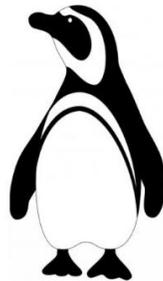
We wrote another "On Demand" writing piece on Monday, using a book by "Weird Al" Yankovic (yes, he's an author!) as the inspiration for our prompt. We also read Lola Dutch, a Christmas gift to our CLASS from Vivian. (Thanks, Vivian!!!) In this sweet book, Lola tries to decide what SHE wants to be when she grows up. Our resulting narrative/opinion pieces were excellent! We are growing so much as readers and writers! And just wait until you read about what your child wants to be when he/she grows up . . . and why!

Our mathematical development is growing, as well! We took our "end of module" test on Monday, and began **MEASUREMENT (Module #3)** on

Tuesday. Hooray for something other than addition and subtraction! The kids and I were getting a bit tired of adding and subtracting day after day! We can't stop altogether, of course, but this will be a nice little break from the monotony of the first half of school! ☺

We survived our first two sessions of MAPS testing on Tuesday and Thursday (both related to reading and Language Arts). Don't forget that we will test in MATH next Tuesday. Again, sleep and a healthy breakfast are all the preparation required.

We have been enjoying Mr. Popper's Penguins. Since this beloved book was written by Richard and Florence Atwater over 80 years ago, we have been fascinated by technology of the time period - specifically the telephones and refrigerator/freezers! Yet another lesson in "life long ago!"



We have been blessed by beautiful weather for January. It's very uncommon to be able to play OUTSIDE in the first couple of weeks of the month of January! A New Year's miracle - and we have definitely made the most of it! But cold weather has descended upon us once again. Please be sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the elements. (I know they hate to wear coats, but still . . .)

We are looking forward to our next landmark day, our exciting "100th Day of School" on Wednesday, January 29th. Please pay very careful attention to the special "Day 100" letter, which is attached to this newsletter.

Enjoy your free day on Monday! Thank you, Dr. King!