



January 6th, 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you had a wonderful holiday! I want to thank all the parents who volunteered their time and talents to give our class a fabulous Christmas party. It was the perfect way to begin our holiday celebration! I am ready to get back into the swing of things and hope the kiddos are, too.

As a way to ease back into our school routine, we will be focusing on winter stories - We will be reading The Emperor Penguin in our Journeys book and completing several writing lessons that will showcase our knowledge - The skill plan on IXL is Unit 5 Lesson 21. Starting next week, we will kick-off our biography unit by reading the story, Snowflake Bentley. He was a snowflake photographer who had an interest in capturing snowflakes. He lived on a farm with his family in Jericho, Vermont, between Lake Champlain, and Mount Mansfield. We will be using the book to look at his timeline (1865-1931) as it will connect to our biography learning -as described below. It's also the first step into our new science focus, States of Matter.

We will be completing our first book report. This is a home assignment that connects to Martin Luther King Day on January 21st as well as February's Black History month. I want the children to choose a person who they would enjoy learning about - an **American** who has done great things for our country. The children can choose a biography from school or home. I have several of the *Who Was* series which is an excellent series for this project. Please encourage your child to pick someone other than Ben Franklin because we will be reading his biography as a class.

Following are the requirements for the book report:

- Read the biography and at least one more source on your famous person.
- Choose one of the book report forms that I'll be sending home to use for your report.
- A written "short essay" is also part of this project - the guidelines and rubric will also come home.
- The project is due the first and second week of February. After your child chooses a book, I will assign a day and time for him/her to present, and you are welcome to come and be part of the audience.

Note- All the forms necessary for completing this project will be in our Google Classroom.

Weekly Reminders:

- If you are interested in being a guest reader, fill out the guest reader form and send it back as soon as you can.
- Math focus includes: fractions and two and three digit computation.
- Winter MAP testing (Can you believe it??) - January 15th reading @ 10:00;
January 22nd math at 10:00. We will take the tests in our classroom on our Chromebooks.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Linda Hall