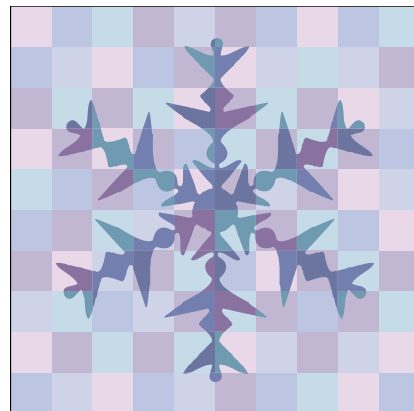


Mrs. M^oDonald's Intermediate Classroom

February Already?



This was a fast and frenzied week. So much going on.

First of all, this was the most amazing Spotlight ever. Captain Duncan came and talked about the collection of goodies that the troops got in the mail at Christmas time. He showed the students a slide show of what it was like to be in Iraq and how the soldiers have to carry with them the items that they eat in their backpacks. He talked about how their mission is to make friends and keep peace. He presented Mrs. Pangalangan with a flag that was flown in Iraq and some special coins that were given to us by his commander. It was very moving. The children were fascinated with his talk. The moms were motivated to help the troops again and ask for your help in collecting some comfort items for the people serving in Iraq. A flyer will come home soon with details about this special project. It is something little to do that says thanks in such a huge way. Hopefully everyone will consider making a donation of PowerBars, razors, chocolate, DVD's....anything to brighten their day.

We worked this week on timed tests and I am very pleased to see an increase in numbers. I can tell that students are practicing their facts. They keep asking if they can take the tests so they can get skittles or nerds...whatever it takes.

This week we also worked on a variety of meaningful experiences with math in order to see and understand the relationship that exists and apply this information to their daily lives. We took the knowledge that we have in mathematical concepts and applied this to real-life situations.

Students "purchased" tickets for the Super Bowl and applied problem solving skills. Many encountered problems as they needed 4 or 5 tickets, but the section that they wanted to purchase the tickets from only had two available together.

Read more on Page 2.....

Issue 21

February 2, 2008

IMPORTANT Dates:

- February 5th probably 100th day of school
- Economy shop February 28-29
- Report cards come out March 3,
- Conferences can be scheduled for March 7
- GALA is March 15th
- IOWA Testing is March 11-14, please try not to schedule appointments for this week, especially mornings.

Change in the Legacy Project sharing Day....

It cannot be April 4th and will be moved to later in April. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Students will make invitations once the date is rescheduled.

When students went online to purchase tickets, they needed to decide who was going. Most students were taking their entire family until they discovered how much the tickets cost. The cheapest seats were \$1,500.

When Erika couldn't find enough tickets together in the cheap seats (if you want to call it that) she decided her mom really doesn't like football and she should stay home with her younger sister. Now, that is problem solving.

Trev decided he would rather put this money toward the family's Disney fund and that they could just stay home and watch the game on TV. Again, problem solving.

Julia was a big spender. She bought several tickets on the 50 yard line and close to the field. (No nosebleed seats for her!!!) She had no problem picking the party and spa package that accompanied these tickets! Her total could have purchased a new home! She decided that she should go to work to pay for her tickets. At first she suggested she could work at Marco's Pizza, however, it would probably take 10 years with no spending to pay off her Super Bowl debt...I hope it is a good game. Then she decided to design a dress to sell for the cost of her tickets at least...good thinking.

Christina decided to take me since Alexa had already purchased tickets for her parents. Unfortunately, I think she was planning on making me pay for the tickets.

This was a fun opportunity to use multiplication, problem solving, and technology. We also researched airfare and hotel accommodations. This will be a nice bridge into our economy study for the next few weeks.

ECONOMY UNIT

Students will begin work on their products this week. The intent of the economy unit is for the students to gain an understanding of taking out a loan...from me... to pay for their purchased product components. They then need to put in their labor (at school) on the product and price the product appropriately in order to secure a profit. After they sell their products to the K-2 students, they will need to pay off their loan...to me....and see what they made.

They need to be sure to set the price of the product appropriately. They need to create enough product to sell, and they need to try to make a profit.

I have had a few questions about the economy unit. There are many "components" available at school for the students to create a product. My intent is not for anyone to go out and purchase items for this unit. The students that were at the Academy last year are very excited about having their chance to create a product this year... and the new students are hearing many stories about our "store" from last year. If you have any questions just let me know.

The Legacy Project

Thanks for sending in the pictures and interview information. I am spending this weekend working on uploading as many pictures as I possibly can to make it easier for the students to work on the written work and arrangement of photos in their books.

We will be working this week on creating an order of events for the book and using colorful and descriptive writing to make the reader want to read the book.

**THE Legacy Project SHARING DAY MUST BE MOVED
FROM APRIL 4th.**

I will need to move this more toward the end of April, but do not have a date as of yet. I will let you know as soon as I check the schedule of the Academy and Minds in Motion. I am sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused. Please email me if you have any questions or concerns about the dates.

Homework for next week:

Monday: Reading assignment and Wordly Wise words come home

Tuesday: Math practice...timed test on Wednesday

Wednesday: Writing assignment-What would you do if you had \$100?
(Tuesday is the 100th day of school)

Thursday: Study wordly wise vocabulary for spelling and meaning. Test on Friday.

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Dress in Super Bowl colors	2
3	4	5 100th day of school	6 pizza	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Pizza	14 Valentine Party	15	16
17	18 No School	19	20 Pizza	21	22 Early Dismissal	23
24	25	26	27 Pizza	28 Our Economy Shop Sale	29 Our Economy Shop Sale	

March 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Report Cards	4	5 Pizza	6	7 No School Conference Day	8
9	10 IOWA TESTING Week	11	12 Pizza	13	14	15 Gala
16	17	18	19 Pizza	20	21 No School	22
23	24 Spring Break	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					