

Mrs. MacDonald's Intermediate Classroom



Happy New Year

Issue 18
January 4, 2009

Important Dates

- Thursday evening January 8th at 7:00 pm students will present Science of Simple Machines... all classrooms will be open with examples of current units of study. Join us and bring a friend.
- January 19th—No school MLK Day
- Open House January 25th

I hope that everyone enjoyed their holiday break. We had a wonderful time full of family and friends.

2009 has much in store for us. We begin with SIMPLE MACHINES—students will learn more about the way simple machines make our life easier.

- We will be learning more about politics and witness a historic inauguration this month.
- We will study more about Ohio History and learn what makes Ohio different from the other 50 states.
- We will be gathering information about the 50 states, learn about the history and other interesting information on the 50 states, and create Monopoly boards containing information about each state.
- We will learn about the Human Body and Weather
- We will be working on Roman Numerals, Percentages, Division and Geometry.
- We will be using new workbooks that reinforce editing skills and spiral math skills. Look for these to come home sometime soon for your review.
- We will be working on Folktales, Heroes and Heroines
- We will hatch eggs, create our legacy books, and choose a science fair project.
- We will learn about economics and create a product to sell
- Much more is in store for the school year—I am looking forward to these learning opportunities.



This Week

This week we will begin our study of Simple Machines. Join us on Thursday evening at 7:00 for a presentation on Simple Machines. (This is part of our planned series—each immersion week we try to involve parents in our learning process through field trips or parent programs.)

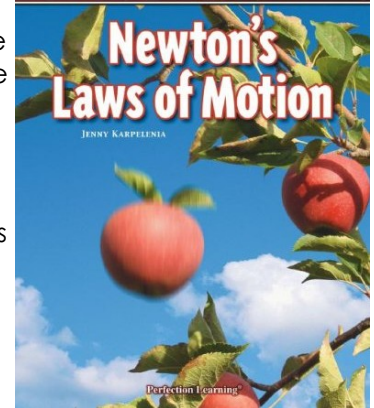
We will learn more about Isaac Newton and the laws of motion, we will have reading groups that will explore the books The Gypsy Game and Hatchet. We will be reading and discussing these books together.

We will review RESPECT and introduce the character trait of courage.

We will discuss what the phrase LIVE AND LET LIVE means.

We will begin to learn more about the 50 states and try the American states quiz.

We will review rounding, plot coordinates on a grid, and work on division skills.



HOMEWORK THIS WEEK:

Since this is our immersion week, I am assigning open ended assignments

turkey	lonely	merry	steady	hungry	valley
hockey	starry	melody	movie	duty	chimney
plenty	daily	alley	eighty	empty	injury
prairie	worry	mystery	drowsy		

Practice spelling words

Read assigned reading

Practice math facts—review addition facts, subtraction facts, multiplication facts and division facts.

Spelling test on Friday-be prepared

Also, I hope everyone had an opportunity to complete their interview over the holiday break. Next week, we will begin composing the writing for the Legacy Project. Students will begin with a story opener... some way to capture the reader's attention. Review what has been learned about the person that was interviewed... what did you find interesting or different about this person. If you did not have time over Christmas, please be sure to work on the interview by next week.

Thank you all soooo much for the wonderful bouquet of flowers and gift cards. I have not even started using the wonderful treats. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. We will greatly enjoy Chipotle, Blockbuster, Panera, Amazon.com, DLM, and Shutterfly. We already went to Grinders and were happy to see the Powers Family there over Christmas. I cannot believe that the break is here and gone already. It went by so fast.