

# Mrs. MacDonald's Intermediate Classroom



## Cold Weather

Issue 20

January 19, 2009

### Important Dates

- Cookbook orders and recipes due by January 23rd
- Open House January 25th
- Last week of EXTRA
- New session of Extras begin January 28

Despite the short week— 2 hour delay and bitter cold cancelling Friday, we accomplished quite a bit last week.

We worked on coordinates—several students had trouble using the negative numbers for coordinates. Most showed mastery with the extra practice we put in last week. We will continue to reinforce this skill.

We worked on FORCES and MOTION by constructing a K-nex Roller Coaster. A huge thank you to the Popson Family for sending this kit to school. Students have had a great time constructing it during the indoor recess time.

We learned about past inaugurations and prepared to learn about the historic inauguration that will take place tomorrow. We used the internet to make some mock purchases for the parade and Ohio's inaugural ball. Tickets to the parade, ball and 2 hotel rooms for all 15 of us ended up costing close to \$50,000.

We discussed the parade, and brainstormed some things we would want to take if we were really going to the inauguration. Students came up with incredible lists of things that would help make the experience more pleasant. We discussed that you will need to arrive at least 2-hours early, so the items to pack included: DS game systems, Ipods, chairs, umbrellas (just in case), blankets, backpacks, coolers with snacks and drinks, cell phones, and maybe a book. Then, we got on the website to find out what items were prohibited.... Again, the indignation... it reminded me of the taxation lesson a couple months ago. NO backpacks, no umbrellas, no chairs (Emma was furious about having to stand for 2 hours before a parade would even begin. She is definitely bringing a blanket, I hope it isn't wet and muddy.) No coolers, no strollers, and so on... but when they

learned that the items prohibited would be taken from them—many thought that they could go back to the checkpoint afterwards and reclaim their chair or backpack...RIGHT, they will hold it for you with your name on it.... Don't count on that happening... the expressions of indignation grew!



Many decided they would rather watch it on TV instead of 2 miles away on a JUMBOTRON.

We will be watching the inauguration tomorrow on CNN's Live stream. This will make Emma happy; she will have a seat!

## This Week

### Reading/Language Arts

We will meet in groups to discuss HATCHET and THE GYPSY GAME.

We will finish the book Dive and compare this book to other read alouds.

### Math

We worked on coordinates last week. This week we will be learning more about probability to prepare for the Middle Schools Probability of Fun! We will also be learning about Roman Numerals and prepare for Super Bowl Math!

### History

We will be watching some history in the making as we learn about past inaugurations and learn about the 44th president's inaugural events. (I think I would be exhausted if I were him!!!)

### Spelling -

Since our spelling test ended up being wind chilled out... we will practice the spelling words from last week again on Tuesday and then have a spelling test of these words on WEDNESDAY... the pretest showed me that many had difficulty remembering to change the y to an "i" and add the ending.

tiniest	hobbies	copied	countries	pitied	easier
laziest	families	spied	happiest	ladies	friendlier
studied	busier	breezier	prettiest	noisier	healthier
butterflies	funniest	stories	heaviest		

### Homework for the week:

**Tuesday:** Study spelling words for a spelling test on Wednesday

**Wednesday:** Play some games of probability. Choose one from this site:

<http://www.betweenwaters.com/probab/probab.html>

This explains the probability . (Mustang Money with a note.)

**Thursday:** EXERCISE for the walk- to- Disney...