

# MRS. MACDONALD'S INTERMEDIATE CLASS

## February 22, 2009



Last week we marked the 100th day of school. Students participated in a variety of activities each 100th minute of school. They searched the newspaper for the numbers 1-100, worked collaboratively on 100 piece puzzles and did 100 jumping jacks. This was just a small way of participating in the event with the younger students of the school.

Last week students were introduced to folktales. I had them do a writing about what they already knew about folktales... I am glad that I did because most told me they didn't know anything about folktales. We will continue working on these this week. There are over 25 folktales in the classroom and everyone read at least two on their own last week. Students were also given a story map to help them create their own folktale. We will be finishing up work on these this week.

This week we will be working on the Legacy Projects and trying to finalize writings and uploading photographs. We will continue to work on equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and multiplying fractions. There has been a strong increase in scores on the timed tests... thank you for additional efforts at home.

Papers came home this weekend that show the effects of careless mistakes in multiple digit multiplication. There are many opportunities for errors in each problem. Knowledge of basic math facts is a huge benefit to accuracy .



### February 2009



#### Important Dates

- IOWA Basic Skills testing the week of March 9th
- Immersion week this week– we will be working on Legacy Projects and Folktales.
- Gala on March 14th—think about bidding on our classroom basket... a rug we braided during our colonial study , matching pillows, a blanket and special photograph. Or– bid on dinner and a movie at my house for your child and three friends. This year it was hosted on Halloween and it was a haunting good time!

## Homework

This week we will not begin a Wordly Wise list, or begin a new spelling list. We will review our first eight units of Wordly Wise and review the spelling lists.

We will be finishing up the book Time Bike.

We will begin work on persuasive writing as well as work on LEGACY writings.

We will have math skill building week—Daily Math Skill books will be reviewed and students will have conferences on areas of strengths and weaknesses.

Homework for the week will be quite different.

This week is student choice week. Each night 20-30 minutes of homework must be completed, but they can choose what they want to do. Suggested activities:

- Free writing choice... write about the topic of your choice. Remember what you have learned about opening statements, supportive details and closings.
- Math practice—if you need to improve speed, fluency, and accuracy of math facts... practice with flashcards or websites. Provide some sort of evidence of practice to earn mustang money.
- Read—take home a folktale and read it... tell me if it has any similarities or differences to the other folktales we read in class.
- Social Studies— learn more about Ohio—take home the Ohio mini-books we have in the classroom and list three new things you learned about Ohio.
- Science— we will begin learning about the systems of the human body... look up information on the internet about the skeletal system or muscular system of the body.
- Take home a teacher created game and play it at home... there are games on fractions, games on multiplication, games on similes and many more.
- Create your own homework assignment... let me know what you did to earn a mustang money.

We will have a very busy week culminating our Legacy Projects. Be sure to have all your information at school to help you finish your work.

A huge thanks to Amy Lipinski for helping out on Friday. Madison had a great visit at Baldwin Wallace.