

Dear Parents,

We want to start by wishing all of you a Happy New Year and thanking you for all of the wonderful cards, presents, and scrip. We are so blessed to have such wonderful students and amazing parents.

We started out the new year with a lot happening! We both enjoyed the snow but are so happy to see it melting away and the icy roads cleared. The new portable is up and getting all the wiring and everything else that goes into making the portable habitable for our Kindergarten classes. On a sad note, COVID cases seem to be on the rise so we are strengthening our already strong protocols to try and keep it out of the school. If we do have to pivot to remote learning, know that we have been working with the children all year on using Google Classroom and other google platforms. Our prayer (and we are sure yours too) is to stay in the classroom!

Remember that the grade level Spelling Bee will be next Tuesday morning. The words to study are in our Reading/Spelling Google Classroom for the students to review. Mrs. Fluckey will be coordinating the spelling bee for us and we will get down to a winner and a runner up. Not sure how the school wide spelling bee will be conducted but we will keep you in the loop.

It is time for our winter MAPS testing. Third grade is scheduled to take the tests on January 24th, 25th and 26th. Please try to make sure your child is well rested, has had a good breakfast and of course is present to take the test. We will remind them that these are not timed and that if they begin to lose focus, we want them to take a short break because we want their best work!

Spelling for the month of January is crazy. First, we had a snow day which cancelled out spelling for this week because we needed to get through Assignment 1 with the reading groups. Next week, we have normal spelling so watch for the words to be coming home on Monday and the spelling practice slides will be assigned for them to do for homework if they choose. The next week, Jan 17-21st, we have Monday off for Martin Luther King Jr. birthday and MAPS testing is taking place the following week, Jan. 24-26th. Mrs. Sheehan has decided to teach the spelling focus on Friday, Jan. 21st so the children will get their words and the test on those words will be on the following Friday, Jan 28th.

Each of our classrooms have earned a Classdojo party. We will be celebrating with a pizza and movie party Friday January 21st in the afternoon. Mrs. Sheehan's class will be watching "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" since they just finished reading it. Mrs. Smith's class will be watching "Encanto" since so many students have told me how great it is. Both of these movies are rated PG. If you have any problems with your child watching either of these, please let the homeroom teacher know. Should be a fun afternoon.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend.

Blessings,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan