



Mrs. Furtado, Mrs. Husereau, Mr. Jablonski, Mr. Lenihan, & Mrs. Roberts



SEAHORSE TEAM

JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2017

How many snow days will 2017 bring? Interesting question that we can think about and make predictions for. Happy New Year to everyone! We hope you enjoyed your holidays. In our classrooms this month, we hope to take a little time to review and revisit many of the skills/concepts we did before break and then build upon those as we move forward. Our PBIS focus continues throughout the year emphasizing that students always be respectful, be responsible and be safe.


Please check class and team web pages for homework assignments and announcements.

We will continue to include a section “Classroom Supplies Needed” as an attempt to combat the cold and flu season. Any donations are greatly appreciated.

Classroom Supplies Needed:

- Paper towels
- Disinfectant wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Tissues

Mathematics

 During the months of January and February students will be perfecting multi-digit multiplication. Great news we are using the standard algorithm, (this is the method we all grew up using), feel free to assist your children with their homework using the method we are all

familiar with. Our multiplication unit will culminate with a long term classroom project, where our students will plan and design their own zoo. This task will have them thinking about purchasing animals, buying their feed, staffing the zoo, all the way down to purchasing souvenirs for the gift shop. This activity will afford the students numerous opportunities to use multiplication in a real context. As we conclude our unit we will begin the foundational work needed for our students to begin thinking about long division.

Science



We are working on our second FOSS science kit, *Mixtures & Solutions*. So far we have created and separated some solutions and dry mixtures and written about what we have observed. We will soon begin creating models that allow us to observe and explain objects and systems as well as look more closely at solutes, solvents and the process of dissolving. When time allows we will read aloud and discuss Flush by Carl Hiaasen, making science and PBIS connections whenever possible. Finally, we will continue to look at current trends and events in science using newspaper articles, Super Science, National Geographic magazines and Ted Talks.

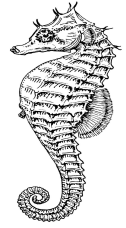
Social Studies

We have been busy researching and studying the Early Explorers while weaving in





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Geography skills. At the conclusion of this unit, we will begin our unit on Colonial America. Students will journey through time to the New World and learn all about the trials and tribulations that the colonists endured. We will be reading a variety of informational texts and watching educational videos. Students will continue to participate in inquiry tasks to build knowledge, develop critical thinking, encourage development of interpersonal and team skills, as well as motivate and engage all students. We are very excited about the projects and activities that are to come.

connects with the content/units we are studying. Students will continue to move through *Wordly Wise* as another way to strengthen word skills.

Important Dates

Jan. 1- Happy New Year!

Jan. 10, 13, 17, 20 - NWEA Testing

Jan. 16- MLK Day

Feb. 20 & 21- Presidents' Day Break

ELA



All classes will continue to work on 6 traits in writing with emphasis on ideas, organization, voice, word choice and conventions. Students will be immersed in a number of writing activities with one or more texts as we continue to respond to various forms of literature. We will be engaged in reading a variety of diverse informational texts and we will soon start a whole classroom narrative. Through this reading, students will explore and develop their comprehension skills by making predictions, synthesizing information/ideas, building background knowledge, forming opinions, visualizing, making inferences and forming connections. Students will continue to collaborate in groups and will be using higher order questioning to build depth of knowledge through text discussion and deepening comprehension through text analysis. In regards to word work, we continue to look at vocabulary that

Quote of the month:

*“Learn to Listen. Opportunity sometimes
knocks very softly.”*

– Life’s Little Instruction Book