



# Mrs. Jenoski's Newsletter January 2018

## Important Dates

- January 8<sup>th</sup> - PTG Meeting  
6:30 pm
- January 9<sup>th</sup> - Lilly Book  
mobile
- January 15<sup>th</sup> -No School  
MLK Jr. Day
- February 3<sup>rd</sup> -Winter  
Carnival (Snow Date 2/10)
- January 25<sup>th</sup>-February 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Scholastic Book Fair

## Birthdays

Zaynab - January 2nd

Jonathan - January 4th

Sophia - January 30th



## Classroom News



Happy New Year! Wishing your family a year filled with health and happiness! I want to take a moment to thank you for the generous gifts and cards you gave before the holiday break. It was so thoughtful of you and very much appreciated.

I hope you take a moment this New Year to reflect on the progress and growth of your child so far this year. As you know first grade is truly a year of "many firsts", and you should be proud of the hard work your child is doing each and everyday in the classroom.

Throughout the month of December, many students in our classroom were ill. We saw illnesses such as the common cold, fevers, strep, and many cases of the stomach bug. Be assured that we working hard to prevent these illnesses from spreading as we try to keep your children healthy during the winter months. You can help by keeping your child home until they are fever free or have not vomited in over 24 hours. Thank you for your understanding!

**Math Tip:** Students are encouraged to move beyond just counting on and counting back. They are learning how to "make ten" as they add two or three numbers. Making a ten is a more efficient way to count.

**Literacy Tip:** Students are learning how to summarize a text. This can be very difficult to not tell *every detail* they remember about a story. **Somebody** (character), **Wanted** (what did the character want), **But** (problem), **So** (ending) is a great way to begin summarizing.



**Math:** Please see the attached parent newsletter for math! This newsletter is meant to inform you of current concepts your child is working on in school. You Tube can be a great resource as well. Check out their short video clips showing how to solve similar problems. We hope these newsletters will help you to better understand the process in problem-solving equations, as well as the rationale behind it.

**Snack:** Please pack a healthy, peanut-free snack daily for your child!



### Winter Carnival

It's time for the annual Winter Carnival family event at WAMS! There will be plenty of games, prizes and food for all.

Our class will have a game in the gym. I try to change the game each year, so if you have any ideas or a game you would love to share please let me know!

I will be asking for volunteers to run the game in half hour increments. Stay tuned for the sign up to come home.

Thank you!



### What We're Learning

**Reading:** We enjoyed our mini-unit, "Holidays Around the World". We eagerly opened our special package sent from Globe Trot Scott as we followed him to learn about traditions in other countries. I hope you enjoyed reading about our traditions in our class book. It was so nice to see how our friends celebrate the holidays and why they are special to them.

This month we will begin with an author study on Jan Brett. Jan Brett is a local author from Massachusetts. We will spend time learning how to compare and contrast texts, as well as summarize a fictional story. The children will learn specific steps to writing a summary:

1. Take notes on the topic, accurately and in your own words.
2. Think about the topic and the information that the author tells us about it.
3. Remember to tell what's important, but don't tell too much!

Writing a summary is very challenging. Often times we want to tell too much about a topic. Deciding how to choose the most important parts will our focus.



**Writing:** In SRSD, we are wrapping up our work on TIDE Informative Writing. After closely reading a text, your children can now pull-out content specific words that we call "pazazzi or million dollar words". These words should be used in their writing as they provide detail and show a deeper understanding of the topic.

Our next writing focus will be Opinion Writing. We will learn a new mnemonic called TREE. It stands for: Topic sentence, Reasons-3 or more, Explain reasons, say more about each reason and Ending- wrap it up tight.