**Young 5s and Kindergarten**  **January 16, 2018**

**What we’re learning!**

**Phonics**

**Whole class**: This week, we’ll focus on the letter ‘R’ and sort pictures that begin with the /r/ sound. We’ll sort uppercase ‘R’ and lowercase ‘r’ as well.

**Kindergarten**: Students will continue to practice identifying word families, matching rhyming words, and producing rhymes.

**Y5:** Students will practice listening for ending sounds, identifying word families, and matching rhyming words.

**Reading:** Our unit this week will focus on the extraordinary life of Martin Luther King. We’ll read “Ron’s Big Mission” by Corrine Naden and non-fiction books about MLK Jr. and his amazing impact. We’ll practice gathering and retelling facts about Dr. King. Our vocabulary words are: **important, nervous, serious, budge, and tucked.**

**Handwriting:** This week, we’ll practice tracing and writing letters G and H.

**Writing:** We’ll begin our Opinion Writing unit. Students will learn the difference between a fact and an opinion by reading opinion-based books. We’ll also begin to write our own opinions about our favorite things.

**Math**

**Kindergarten:** We’ll explore the number grid and practice using it to identify ‘mystery’ numbers. Students will play “Top It” to practice identifying the ‘greatest’ number. We’ll also solve number stories.

**Y5:** We’ll practice identifying numbers in a scavenger hunt, identifying the ‘greater’ number, and building numbers.

**Science:**

**Kindergarten:** The class really enjoyed sorting ‘push’ and ‘pull’ activities last week and reviewing positional words. This week, we’ll begin learning about the body.

**Y5:** We’ll begin our new unit on Simple Machines by learning what tools we can use to move things.

**Social Studies:**

**Kindergarten:** Since we’re learning about our wonderful state, we’ll read legends about Michigan, such as the Legend of the Sleeping Bear Dunes.

**Young 5s:** We’ll practice using our words to share our feelings.

**Important Dates**

* **Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Monday, 1/15/18-No School**
* **Movie Night: 1/19 6:30-8pm**
* **Little Caesar’s Pizza Kit Order Forms due 1/24/18**

**Tips/Strategies**

\*I highly recommend that your child spends at least 10-15 minutes a night reading with you. Ask your child to identify letters and sight words on each page. This will help them become a strong reader.

\*I also suggest that you practice counting 1-50 with your child and asking them to identify letters, words, numbers, and shapes in the world around them.

* If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me: **vansteel@aaps.k12.mi.us.**

**Sight words to review:**

* **get**
* **on**
* **all**

**\*Due to the shortness of this week and last week, we’ll focus on the same words.**

\*We’ll practice identifying, sorting, reading, and writing these words as well as making them with magnetic letters.

Owl Aboard!

Ms. Van’s Newsletter