**Young 5s and Kindergarten**  **January 8, 2018**

**What we’re learning!**

**Phonics**

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

**Kindergarten**: Students will practice identifying the ending sounds of words, hearing rhymes, and matching rhyming words.

**Y5:** Students will practice identifying the beginning sounds and ending sounds in words. We’ll also practice hearing rhymes and matching rhyming words.

**Reading:** Our unit this week will focus on “The Snowy Day” by Jack Ezra Keats. We will practice making connections and retelling the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Our vocabulary words are: **piled, path, pretend, sank, and firm.** We will also begin to learn about the extraordinary life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr..

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

**Writing:** This week, we’ll learn how to ‘tap out’ our stories by counting on our fingers what words we’ll write on our paper. We’ll also review when to use capitals and an exclamation point in our stories.

**Math**

**Kindergarten:** We’ll continue to explore the pan balance and use it to order objects from lightest to heaviest. We’ll also explore capacity and practice counting by 10s.

**Y5:** We’ll practice comparing the weight the objects using the pan balance and explore capacity. We’ll also practice counting beyond 10.

**Science:**

**Kindergarten:** We will sort movements by push or pull and review positional words.

**Y5:** We’ll continue to learn about the backyard habitats of birds.

**Social Studies:**

**Kindergarten:** We will gather facts about the wonderful places, people, and items from our state of Michigan. We’ll also practice finding Michigan on a map of the United States.

**Young 5s:** We’ll practice including others in our activities and review sharing.

**Important Dates**

* **School resumes on Monday, January 8th.**
* **PizzaHut Book It calendars are due Tuesday, January 9.**
* **Little Caeser’s Pizza Kit Order Forms go home this week!**
* **Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Monday, January 15-No School**

**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**

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

Owl Aboard!

Ms. Van’s Newsletter