

# Ms. Athon's Second Grade News

December 17, 2014



## Our Season of Giving

Thank you so much for all of our wonderful donations to support our two special children this holiday season. What a fabulous display of care and concern for others. It is truly a gift to work with such terrific parents and students. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Your support is very much appreciated. Best holiday wishes to all!

*Ms. Athon*

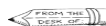


## Gratitude Galore

A special thank you goes out to all of our parents for being so wonderful and supportive at such a hectic time of year. Our classroom has been a frenzy of holiday excitement over the past week. Our gingerbread houses look amazing. Our holiday party was fabulous. Our stockings are overflowing with goodies. Your donations were put to good use. Thanks again for all you do!

## From the Bottom of Our

A very special thank you goes out to Mrs. Atkinson & Mrs. Barrett (our awesome room moms), & Mrs. Leonard. They have made everything possible. Their fantastic organization has helped our children, as well as children less fortunate, have a fantastic holiday season. Thanks for all of the e-mails, sign-ups, etc. You are very much appreciated!



*Ms. Athon*

## Language Arts

Our class has focused on nonfiction book features over the past 2 weeks. Students have studied the purpose of the table of contents, index, glossary, headings, captions, diagrams, etc. It is important for students to use these elements to better understand the content of the book. Commas in a series as well as commas in a date have also been discussed. In addition, students have read passages and studied context clues in order to answer various comprehension questions. All of these skills are essential for strong second grade readers and writers!

## Math

Fact families have been reviewed. We want children to notice the patterns in numbers. Subtraction and addition work together! If  $3+4=7$  and  $4+3=7$ , then  $7-3=4$  and  $7-4=3$ . We have been discussing the math terms of equivalent and nonequivalent. Basic properties of addition (commutative & associative) will be utilized to simplify problems as well as a variety of strategies to solve one & two-digit addition and subtraction problems.

## Social Studies/Science

States of Matter has been our primary focus in science. Students have studied the various properties of matter as well as their chemical and physical changes. New vocabulary words have been introduced (i.e. mass, volume, properties, etc.) Our Native American (Creek & Cherokee) unit has concluded. Next up: Civil Rights in Social Studies & Astronomy in Science!



## Upcoming Events

Dec. 19	End of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks
Dec. 22-Jan. 2	Winter Break
Jan. 5	Teacher Work Day
	Student Holiday
Jan. 6	School Resumes
Jan. 9	Report Cards
Jan. 15	Reflections Reception @ 6:30pm
Jan. 16	100 <sup>th</sup> Day of School
Jan. 19	MLK Day
	School Holiday
Jan. 20	Mid-Year AR Celebration
	Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night
Jan. 21	RFL Skate Night
Jan. 22	DCES Literacy Night
Jan. 29	PTA Mother/Son Bowling Night @ 6pm
Jan. 30	RFL Coins for Cancer



## Homework for the Holidays

Please continue to read and write over the winter holidays. Our high-frequency word lists and quick math facts are also excellent exercises to work on at home. Fostering a love of learning is our number one goal. We want wonderful, happy, & independent learners!

\*Students will receive their NEXT homework assignment on Friday, January 9, 2015. Please look for this info on 1/9. Thanks for all you do!



## Accelerated Reader

**Second graders are expected to have a total of 30 or MORE points by the spring of 2015.** Our media specialists encourage students to read nightly so that they may test the following day. As a further incentive, Mrs. Starner and Mrs. Martin have arranged a "Mid-Year Celebration" for those children with 15 pts or more on **January 20, 2015**. A final celebration will be held in May for all students achieving the grade level goal of 30+ points. Accelerated Reader is a wonderful program that helps to build strong reading comprehension skills. Please be aware of this valuable program and encourage your child to read... read... read!

## Specials

Specials for Week 1/6-1/9

Mon.	No School	Thurs.	STEM
Tues.	Art	Fri.	PE
Wed.	Music		



Our newest "Incredible Cardinal" is...

*Cooper P.*