**This Week in Grade 4, Monday, January 29 – Friday, February 2, 2018**

**Dates to Remember**

**February 06**------Skating for Grade 4 & 5.

**February 07** ---Grade 3, 4, & 5 students will be served Pancakes by the staff. Students will receive a couple of pancakes along with a juice. Pancakes will be served shortly after announcements. There will be no alternative to pancakes served.

**February 14** Valentine’s Day

**February 26** Skating for Grades 4 & 5

**February 26 – March 2**------School Spirit Week. There will be different activities each day during this week. Stay tuned for details!

**February 28** Wear a pink shirt to school to show support of Anti Bullying

It is hard to believe that last week we passed the half way mark of the school year! Wow! My students have continued to grow academically and socially! I am very proud of each and every one of them! They show lots of grit!

We are still benefiting from having Ms. Black, 3 -5 Math Lead with us. She pushed us every day to show true grit. We are certainly developing our Mathematical Critical Thinking Skills. We look forward to what challenge Ms. Black is going to provide us with every morning!

**Math**

In math our focus continues to be on fractions. Some of the terms we have learned are numerator, denominator, and equivalent fractions, greater than and less than in terms of fractions. We have also learned what is meant by a fraction.

This week much of our focus will be on comparing fractions using manipulatives. Students will be modelling a fraction such as 3/5. They will then decide on an equivalent fraction for 3/5 and modelling the equivalent fraction and explaining how the equivalent fraction compares to the fraction he/she started with as well as other equivalent fractions.

**Literacy**

We have completed our Writing Unit on Personal Narratives. Students completed their Demand Pieces on Friday. They will be sent home as soon as they are marked. Keep an out for your child’s Demand Piece. Please have a look at the Demand Piece with your child, sign it and return.

This week we will begin Realistic Fiction. Students are very excited to be able to start writing fiction pieces. I am not sure they are hearing the REALISIC part of Fiction!

In Literacy, we finished The City of Ember and watched the movie. We spent most of last week comparing and contrasting the book and the movie. Most students asked for me to read volume 2. I suggested they go to the Public Library or Chapters and get a copy. I am not going to read Volume #2. There are also Volume #3 & #4.

We have started to learn about Biographies and the difference between Biographies and Autobiographies. We are presently reading a Biography of Rosa Parks. Students will be given an assignment to complete on the life of a person that interests them. I had several Biographies available for students to use for this assignment. Several students indicated that wanted to read the Biography of an athlete. It is up to individual students to select and locate a Biography and begin reading the book. The great thing about the Biographies that I offered is that they were informative and not very long. The present assignment for students to decide on who’s Biography they would like to read, locate a Biography of the person selected and read whatever source they have found. They will be given until February 12 to read their book.

Students will be permitted to search for information about their person on the Net but this is to supplement what that they learned in their book. It cannot be the sole source. They must record what sites they used and the name of the articles. **I would suggest that this be done with parent supervision.** This is to be done at home!

Information regarding expectations, guidelines, Rubric will be sent home next Monday. The assignment for now is to gather a book about the selected person, it must be a biography. Students are to read from their selected book for 20 minutes or more a night until the source is finished.

**Social Studies**

For the first part of February, we will be learning about and celebrating Chinese New Year. One of our outcomes is to learn about and understand various cultures

We will also be learning about the and following the Winter Olympics.

**Science**

We will be conducting STEM activities related to the Olympics. Students will be challenged to design and build various apparatuses used by Olympic Athletes to compete in their sport.

**Health**

This week we will be continuing to learn about being Mindful! Be sure to ask your child what they learn during Mindfulness.

**Skating**

Please ensure that your child has skates and helmets for Tuesday, **February 06.**

This week we will welcome a new student to our class. He has just moved into Barkers Point School Zone. I am sure we will do everything we can to welcome him to our class. Several of the boys already know him. ( I am sorry I can’t remember his name).

Have a good week! Stay in touch!

Mary Ann