**Mrs. Burger’s 2nd Grade Weekly News**

**11/28 – 12/2**

Dear Families,

\*Last week our class used our knowledge of building blocks of matter to create structures fitting a given criteria (50 marshmallows, 100 toothpicks, 30 in. wide or tall, stand on own for 15 seconds, 20 minute time constraint).  The kids synergized so well, and used their creativity and knowledge of matter to create their structures.

\*Flyers for the 2nd Grade Polar Express Party went home with your child a few weeks ago.  If your child is interested, please send in $20 cash or check made payable to Harmony Elementary PTA in an envelope labeled “Burger Polar Express Teacher Event.”  A permission slip with more information will be sent home closer to the event for all those who have sent money.

\*There will be no newsletter, word wall words, or family reflection folders for the two school days this week.

\* Don’t forget to check out our class web page from time to time. I try my best to post a few pictures from our week together every weekend so you can see your children engaged in their work! The site is: [www.teresaburger.weebly.com](http://www.teresaburger.weebly.com)

**Related Arts for this Week: Music (This Monday and Tuesday) Week of 11/28:** PE

**Daily Lunch Time:** 11:37 – 12:02 pm

**Other Information:**

**-** Each day your child will bring home his or her **Student Agenda**.  Please make sure to initial in the box on the page to the right of the message.  Also, please record the title(s) of the book your child read that night.

**Daily Homework:**

* Read 15 minutes each night and record title in student agenda.
* Other suggested activities will be listed on the Snapshot for you and your child to complete.

**What will be learning the week after Thanksgiving?**

**Word Wall Words:** wash, hot, sing, enough, week

**Reading:** In reading we will look at effective story endings.  In most fiction stories, the characters will resolve the conflict in a variety of ways.  We will discuss how the resolution of fiction stories occurs.  In addition, we will continue to read and pick apart poems, and discuss what it means to be a fluent reader when reading a poem.  The students will be practicing reading a given poem and observing the rhythm within the poem.

**Writing:** In writing we will be discussing and writing different types of poems.  We will be looking at the purpose of each type of poem, and practicing writing the format and syllable pattern of a poem.  The specific poems we will be working with are haikus, list poems, place poems, and acrostic poems.  In addition, we will be identifying the text features that influence the effectiveness of each poem.

**Math:** In math we will be transitioning into subtracting two-digit numbers, with and without regrouping.  We will be using our knowledge of two-digit addition to help us solve subtraction problems.  We will begin by introducing how to subtract with base-ten blocks and sketches.  We will then utilize a 100’s chart to subtract.  Students will need to know how many tens and ones to subtract, and which direction on the 100’s chart the place value corresponds with.

**Social Studies:** After Thanksgiving break, we will begin our social studies unit on Westward Expansion.  Students will be creating a timeline to document important events during this time.  We will be determining the location of the Appalachian Mountains, Rocky Mountains, and the Mississippi River by observing, labeling, and coloring a map.  Students will then create a T-chart in which they must identify the means of transportation before planes, cars, and trains, and share the pros and cons of each way.  Later in the week students will generate ideas to help pioneers from the past determine which supplies they should bring when traveling west, such as clothing, tools, mementos, food, etc.  Finally, students will be introduced to Daniel Boone and the significance of his role with the Wilderness Road.

**Important Dates to Remember:**

November 23-25th: Thanksgiving Break

December 3rd: Donuts with Santa 9am – 12pm

December 9th: 2nd Grade Polar Express Part 2:30 – 4:30 pm

December 19th – January 2nd: Winter Break