

NEWS FROM ROOM 4

DECEMBER 2018 EDITION

Hello Families!

Happy holidays! Wow, how time flies! We have completed the first trimester of school. Your child should have brought their report card home to you last Friday, November 30th. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch with me.

DECEMBER ROOM 4 WISH LIST

- Healthy (non-sugary) snacks - pretzels, goldfish, animal crackers, Cheeze-Its, Ritz crackers, graham crackers in bulk
- Wet Ones - Sensitive Skin (light green cylindrical package)
- Crayola colored pencils
- Thin Crayola markers



MONARCH BUTTERFLY TOUR FIELD TRIP

We were able to reschedule the Monarch Butterfly Tour field trip that was postponed due to smoky, poor air quality in November. We will now be going on December 14th, 12:00-2:10pm. Please make sure to sign the permission slip and have your child return it to school.

The tour is outdoors and will take place rain or shine. Please make sure to have your child dress warmly that day, bring a jacket, and wear comfortable walking shoes. We'll be having lunch at school that day and leaving after lunch recess, so there's no need to pack a special brown bag lunch for your child that day.



Thank you to all of those who have volunteered to chaperone and drive! We'll be driving to Monarch Bay in cars. All children under the age of 8 must bring a booster seat. If a student is over the age of 8 or over 4 feet 9 inches tall, a booster seat is not required.

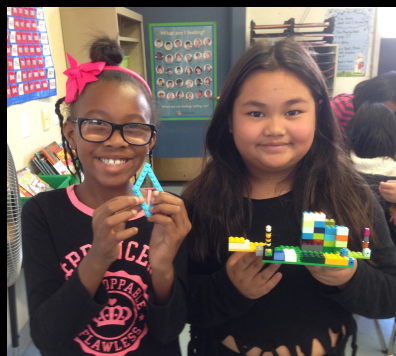
IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

December 14th: Monarch Butterfly Tour field trip (note this new date!)

December 20th: Early Dismissal

December 21-January 4th: Winter Break

January 18th: Last Day of Reading Academy Session 3



FAMILY PROJECT

A big project in 2nd grade is the Family Project. Your student should have brought home a packet of Family Project assignments. In the coming weeks, expect students to ask you about the story of their name, a family immigration or migration story, family traditions, and celebratory outfits. We are asking students to write a paragraph about each of the above topics and present it to the class. So students may also be asking you to be their practice audience so they can practice their public speaking skills and gain confidence before reading to the class.

We did our first presentations on Tuesday. Many students were nervous about getting up in front of the class and speaking into a microphone to share the story of their names, but they bravely took on the task of public speaking and shared many beautiful and funny stories behind their names. It was a wonderful time of sharing and community building.

READING

We are wrapping up our animal unit by studying animal babies and poetry. Our current focus is the similarities and differences between parents and their offspring. Students have been learning to use boxes and bullets to take notes. They put the topic, or what the text is mostly about, in the box. Then they stop after reading each page and think about what they learned. They write notes in the bullets below the box.



MATH

We will be wrapping up the place value unit in the next couple of weeks by comparing numbers using greater than, less than, and equal to and thinking about 1, 10, and 100 more and less than a number. Please see the attached Math News for more details. Remember, your student can always practice their Math skills at home by playing the Zearn or Prodigy games through their Clever account online.

SCIENCE

We introduced live mealworms to Room 4 in November. Students have been observing the mealworms closely and practicing their scientific illustration skills. They have been learning the ABCs of scientific drawing: scientific drawings are Accurate, Big, Colorful, Detailed, Explained. Students are also measuring their mealworm and noting any other changes they notice from week to week.

While some students started off feeling nervous or squeamish about insects, all are now excited about getting the mealworms out to see how they have changed.

