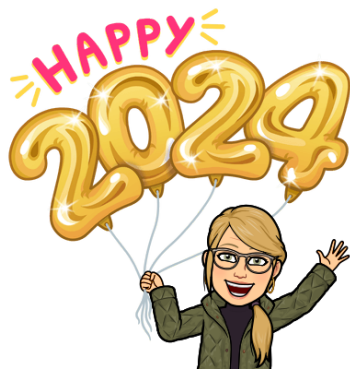


January 5, 2024

# The Rocker's Report

Class Newsletter



Thank you to Nils, Macy, Isaac, Leah, Eli, Isabella and their families for supplying the treats, drinks, games and more for our winter party. We had a fun time. A special thank you to Pam Fels for coming in to help with the party. The extra hand was appreciated!

I also wanted to let you know how much the residents at both Girlie Manor and the Lincoln Court apartments appreciated the students coming over to sing carols and deliver gifts on December 22nd. It was so sweet to have some of the residents sing along with us. Mrs. Messmann and I were very proud of the students.

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It's our time to take our mid-year Fastbridge tests. Testing will be next week on Monday from 11:30–12:30, Tuesday from 9–10, and Wednesday 1 on 1 with me all morning. If you can avoid scheduling appointments during those days/times, that would be wonderful. Thank you!

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**On February 9th, we will be celebrating Chinese New Year all day. Some of the activities we will be doing include: making scrolls using paint, stamps, glitter and more, making mooncakes and masks, using tangrams to make animals, eating food, and setting off “fireworks”! We are looking for a few parent volunteers to help in the morning that day. We would need you from about 8:30 until 10:30 or 11 as we make scrolls in our room and mooncakes and masks in Mrs. Messmann's room. If you are able to help, please let me know. Thank you for considering!**

**Also, if you, or another family member, have traveled to China and would like to talk about your experience there, we'd love to have you come speak to our classes. It's always fun to hear from people who have truly experienced it.**

### Academics:

**Reading-** This week we read a story called Yonder Mountain. It was a Cherokee legend about a chief that was getting older and needed to pick a new chief. He sent 3 young men up the mountain, without any guidance, to find something to help the people. Each came back with something different (crystals, herbs, and nothing but a notice that another tribe was needing help).

Ask your child: *Which one did the Old Chief pick? The one that made it all the way to the top of Yonder Mt. and noticed others needing the tribe's help. Soaring Eagle realized their tribe was not alone and they all needed to work to help each other. That's a great life lesson!*

**Language arts-** For this week's DLR, we learned about run-on sentences and a few ways to fix them. We also are identifying character traits based on information we read. We are also learning the 4 long e patterns and where they're found in words.

**Spelling-** Our rule this week: Contractions are two small words combined together a few letter(s) are removed and replaced with an apostrophe.

**Math-** Right before break we learned the standard algorithm for addition (the one most of you remember) and this week we learned the standard algorithm for subtraction. We also discovered that using the standard algorithm isn't the most efficient strategy sometimes.

Ask your child: *How would you solve  $199 + 199 = t$  using only mental math? Round 199 to 200. Add  $200 + 200 = 400$ . Then take away 2 to get 398.*

For our January Number Corners, we will be collecting time and finding elapsed time. We will also be learning more about fractions and shapes

every day on our calendar. Practicing our multiplication facts will continue to be an important task.

**Social Studies-** We have started our study of China by finding some important places on a map, learning what things their culture has invented and also learning about some animals found there.

**Science-** We have been learning about paleoartists and how they use evidence of current animals bones, teeth, skulls and more to help figure out fossils of the past.

### Important Information/Reminders:

- Fastbridge reading testing - January 8th @ 11:30-12:30
- Fastbridge math testing- January 9th @ 9-10
- NO School/teacher inservice day & Martin Luther King Jr. Day- January 15
- Early release/end of 2nd semester - January 19th @ 12:40
- Report cards go home/China presentation by Mrs. Erickson- January 26
- Chinese New Year Celebration- February 9th

## Special Star

Isabella was our special star the week before break. She celebrated her birthday on December 17th. I wonder if she ate spaghetti, her favorite food. One thing Isabella feels she does well is arts and crafts. Every day after school she watches t.v. Maybe she might take time to read from her favorite book, The Angel Tree. The new *Barbie Movie* is at the top of her list of movies. She likes pop music. Swimming is her favorite sport. To help out around the house, Isabella cooks with her mom and dad. That might be why she would like to be a professional chef when she grows up. 😊 Some day Isabella would like to visit Japan.

