

Classroom Times

January 2012

Mrs. Camara



What's happening in Room242???

Math:

Students have been working on measurement including meters, centimeters, and decimeters. They have also continued to cover multiplication of whole numbers and decimals. Beginning this month students will be reviewing division using one digit divisors, and begin studying the area of triangles.

Students will be taking the math quarterly at the end of the month. Every night for homework students are given an assignment of what we have learned and practiced in class. I have strongly recommended that students are attentive and write all that I do on the board to assist them. It also may be helpful for students to bring home their math textbooks to review the pages done in class each day.

Science: Students have finished the unit on energy and force. They took an exam the second week of December. We will begin simple machines as our next unit.

ELA:

Our unit this month in the Scott Foresman reading series is "How do Inventors and Artists Inspire us?" There are some great stories that I believe students are enjoying. The weekly tests have been improving and many students have discussed various studying strategies that have worked for them on the vocabulary and comprehension questions. I am very proud that students are taking the time to develop study habits that work for them.

Students are reading "Number the Stars" and are enjoying it. We have discussed background about the Holocaust and the class discussed the importance of freedom.

Social Studies: We will begin studying the Maya, Aztec, Inca civilization at the end of the term.

Happy Birthday :

Harleigh- Jan. 6th





Writing:

In writing we will continue to focus on critiquing open response questions as a class. The goal will be to provide students with an opportunity to view other open responses written by fellow classmates. We will also work on a "Resolution Solution" writing piece. We will

be sharing as a class at the end of January to see the progress students have been making with their resolutions.

Communication Tips:

- Teach children to listen... gently touch a child before you talk... say their name.
- Speak in a quiet voice... whisper sometimes so children have to listen... they like this.
- Look a child in the eyes so you can tell when they understand... bend or sit down... become the child's size.
- Practice listening and talking: talk with your family about what you see on TV, hear on the radio or see at the park or store. (Talk with your children about school and their friends.)
- Respect children and use a courteous tone of voice. If we talk to our children as we would our friends, our youngsters may be more likely to seek us out as confidants.

Notes:

Vocabulary: Please ask your child about vivacious vocabulary.

Martin Luther King Day. - No School Monday January 16th.

Peacebuilding: As a class we will be discussing what it means to be wise. We will be brainstorming a list of traits that wise people possess. I will be asking students to write about a wise person in their life. We will display the pieces and a picture of this person in the classroom.

