

MRS. GUBLER'S
CLASSROOM NEWS
January 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

READING

We are finishing Unit 3 in our reading books. We have read realistic fiction, folk tales, animal fantasy and nonfiction stories. Before the end of the month, we will be giving our ELA Mid-term Assessment. Our state has recently released The Massachusetts Common Core Standards for English Language Arts. We have been aligning our teaching to match these standards and will now be able to assess how these expectations are being met. Please continue to make sure that your child understands the importance of reading 10 - 15 minutes each night and logging it in to their Homework Folders.

LANGUAGE

We are continuing to work on Verbs (past, present and future tenses, as well as, verbs of being.)



We are identifying clue words to use in Compare and Contrast writing. Words such as: *and, same, both* signal comparing while words such as: *but, different, unlike* signal contrasting. We have written about seasons, sisters and holidays. This is an important writing style for MCAS preparation.

MATH

We are finishing Chapter 5: Using numbers 1 to 100. We have looked at patterns on a hundred chart, compared and ordered numbers, learned about even and odd numbers and defined terms such as: *less than, greater than, before, between* and *after*. Please continue to help your child learn addition and

subtraction facts. It is so important to their math success.

HOMEWORK

When checking your child's homework, please look for neatness, capitals, end marks and noticing if the sentences make sense. Encourage them to check their own work before showing it to you. It is important for students to have high standards for their work. It leads to increased effort and pride in their own abilities.

IMPORTANT DATES

1/10 Fire Safety Program and PTO Meeting 6:30

1/13 No school- District-wide Professional Development day for teachers

1/16 No school- MLK Day

1/19 Early Release Day

1/20 Grades close

1/30 Report Cards go home