

Room 8 News – Week of December 7 – 11

Dear Families,

I appreciate the time that you took to meet with me during Parent Conferences. I know it is sometimes difficult juggling your busy schedules. I hope that all of your concerns and questions were addressed at that time and please know that I am always available- you do not need to wait until Conference time if there is a concern.

Some news from Room 8:

Social Studies:

We have started our study of France. We are learning about the geography of this country and some of the wonderful parts of their culture. Mrs. Foley, our Art teacher is doing an integrated project with the class with a Monet theme. Likewise, I believe that Mrs. Duggan, our Learning Center teacher, is planning to integrate some technology into this theme; we are still working out the details, but it may be a “Skype” with a family in France. And Madame Clayton, our French teacher, will resume our French lessons this week. I appreciate the support from these teachers, and it definitely enriches this theme!

Math:

We are currently working in the middle of Unit 4. This unit has a lot packed into it:

- Working with number stories using parts-and-total diagrams
- Working with temperature
- Using estimation skills to form “ballpark estimates”
- Working with the partial-sums addition algorithm
- Work with attributes

As you can see, there is a lot to this unit!

Author for December:

Our featured author for this month is Chris Van Allsburg. He is a Caldecott winner, who may be most famous for "The Polar Express." He has many beautiful picture books; I hope you will enjoy one with your child this month!

Literacy:

I hope to weave in many of our books about France - both Fiction and Non-fiction. Although we do have many in our Learning Center, I am always looking for more to borrow.

Homework:

This week you notice I have added Word Study to the homework sheet. On Mondays and Wednesdays I ask that you practice the word list that is attached. We are working on these patterns at school, too. On Fridays we have the "Check-up" to see how your child has mastered this pattern. Thanks for your help with this!

Reader's Auction:

You probably know that we had our first Auction on Friday. I was very impressed with everyone and hope that this will motivate your child to keep reading at home!

I will close for this week!

As always, thank you for your continued support at home.

Sincerely,

Sue Macmillan