

Greetings from Room 8!

February always seems to be a very busy month bursting with activities and special celebrations! This year that is most definitely the case.

A few things for you to consider:

100th Day of School:

This Wednesday (the 10th) marks the 100th day of school. We will have a few special activities to highlight this important day. We are making 100 day headbands to wear, have a special song and story, and do some 100 day writing and math. In addition, we will have a small snack to celebrate this day.

February Author:

The featured author for February is Patrick Catling Skene, author of “The Chocolate Touch”. This short chapter book is a rewrite of the famous Greek myth “King Midas and the Golden Touch”. Everyone seems to be really enjoying it so far, and we have had several discussions about chocolate! (This class certainly does **love chocolate!**) After we finish this book, we will read the original story, and then work on a Venn diagram to compare the two stories.

Math:

We are switching gears to subtraction for our Minute Math. You should find the subtraction sequence sheet in your child’s Homework folder on Monday. Many children find subtraction to be more difficult, so it may take a little more effort, but stay with it! In speaking with the third grade teachers, they say that knowing the addition and subtraction math facts is at the top of their Math “wish list” for third graders in the fall.

We have just begun the second journal in Everyday Math, having completed the mid-year math assessment on Friday. Unit 7 is “Patterns and Rules” and it has three main areas of focus:

- 1) To describe patterns that result from skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s,
- 2) To build mental arithmetic skills for adding 1 and 2 digit numbers, and
- 3) To make frequency tables, line plots, and bar graphs from real-life data.

Friendship Day:

As you know, we will have a small friendship celebration on Friday, Feb. 12th. Children will be able to exchange friendship cards and we will have a snack. If anyone is willing to send in a drink for the festivities, please let me know.

Reader’s Auction:

Our next Reader’s Auction will be on Friday, February 19th. There is still time to squeeze some reading in before then to increase the amount of “spending money” your child has! Thanks so much for your help with this.

Health concerns:

We have started to see some strep throat going around the class, so I would definitely keep a close watch out for it!

Have a great week!

Sincerely,

Sue Macmillan