

February From the Principal's Desk

DATES TO KEEP HANDY	From the Principal's Office
<p>February: 5th – Interim Data Sheets sent home 12th – Valentine's Day Classroom Parties 15th – No School (President's Day) 16th – PreK-12 Parent/Teacher Conference 16th – No School for students due to conferences</p> <p><u>**Please see the back of this newsletter for a February "Kindness" Challenge!</u></p>	<p>The following link is a Day by Day calendar created by Ohio Ready to Read. This is a great family resource to help your child(ren) with early literacy skills. There are activity calendars, songs, rhymes, books to read, and behavior videos and tips. http://www.daybydayoh.org/</p> <p><u>Contact info:</u> bmarshall@amanda.k12.oh.us; (740) 969-7254, ext. 4202</p>

NEWS FROM AROUND THE PRIMARY	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Kindergarten News</u></p> <p>We are shocked to be entering February already. Kindergarten students will celebrate the 100th day of school in February. They will collect and count 100 items by 1s and in groups of 10. Each Kindergarten class is trying to collect 100 food items to donate to our local food pantry. All classes that do collect 100 food items will earn a pizza party. Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Each teacher has sent home a list of names for Valentine's cards and will be sending a donation request for the party on signup genius through the Dojo app.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>From our Intervention Team</u></p> <p>8 Strategies for Improving Your Child's Working Memory – (taken from Amanda Mornin's Article, 8 Working Memory Boosters on Understood.com)</p> <p>5. Encourage Active Reading There's a reason highlighters and sticky notes are so popular: Jotting down notes and underlining or highlighting text can help kids keep the information in mind long enough to answer questions about it. Talking out loud and asking questions about the reading material can also help with working memory. Active reading strategies like these can help with forming long-term memories, too.</p> <p>6. Chunk Information Into Smaller Bits Ever wonder why phone numbers and social security numbers have hyphens in them? Because it's easier to remember a few small groups of numbers than it is to remember one long string of numbers. Keep this in mind when you need to give your child multi-step directions. Write them down or give them one at a time. You can also use graphic organizers to help break writing assignments into smaller pieces.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>First Grade News</u></p> <p><u>Fun Stuff</u> The Valentine's Day parties will be on Friday February 12th. Help your child prepare valentine boxes and cards to bring in to celebrate. Teachers will be asking for donations for snacks, games, and crafts. Students will have some seussical fun as we celebrate Dr. Seuss the week of February 21st. Teachers will read a different Seuss book each day to celebrate!</p> <p><u>Academics</u> Spelling words will focus on long e and long o. We will complete informative writing. Reading skills will focus on main idea and key details. Math will move on to shapes, equal parts, and fractions.</p> <p><u>Themes</u> Animals <u>Character Counts</u> Students will try to exhibit these traits- supportive, compassionate, and tolerance.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Second Grade News</u></p> <p>This month, 2nd grade will be working on writing, reading fluency, and math facts. Our writing focus will be: First, Next, Also, Finally. Thank you for the support from home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Preschool News</u></p> <p>We are so excited to talk about kindness in preschool during the month of February.</p>

February is such a special month. During this month, I challenge all of the students to see if they can complete 20 Acts of Kindness before the last day of February. If you reach the goal, return this list with your name and parent signature and you will get a special prize from my office and we will announce the names on the announcements. Have fun being *KIND*.

- Make a card for someone to tell them how special they are to you.
- Make a new friend.
- Do something nice for your parents.
- Make a card for your teacher.
- Open a door for a friend.
- Play nicely with a sibling.
- Draw a picture for a friend.
- Help your teacher pick up the classroom.
- Make your bed.
- Give a compliment to a classmate.
- Clean your room.
- Tell a school custodian thank you.
- Make Mrs. Kraft a card.
- Push in a chair for a friend.
- Clean up after dinner.
- Help take out the trash.
- Help with the dishes.
- Help fold or put away clothes.
- Say hello to someone new.
- Call a grandparent or family member to check in with them and say hello.
- As a family, tell each other what you like most about each person.
- Donate clothes that you do not wear anymore.
- Donate toys that you do not play with anymore.

There is no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end.

~Scott Adams

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____