

THIRD GRADE NEWS

Dear Parents,

We have come to the conclusion of our non-fiction unit. However, this will be revisited later in the year when we begin research clubs. For the past two weeks, the students have used strategies they've developed for reading biographies on any text that is narrative nonfiction. They read books about the life story of a lobster or about the colonists coming to Plymouth just as they read stories, thinking about the main character's traits, wants, and struggles. So as the unit has come to an end, they are learning not to leave their nonfiction reading behind and forget about it. They're going to be nonfiction readers wherever they go. At the museum or the zoo or at home, there are opportunities for nonfiction reading all around us. The children were given opportunities to complete a variety of different projects as well as create their own to serve as monuments so that they won't forget the ways they've grown as readers, teachers, and experts.

We wrapped up our social studies unit on Native Americans this week! Students have finally completed their group murals and added a short presentation explaining all that they learned about their tribe. Next week, students will complete a STEM unit with fun experiments/activities with Fred D. Worm. The class will be challenged to help Fred, a gummy worm, raft in a river, make it down a mountain, and cross a bridge to name a few. Be sure to ask your child about the adventures of Fred next week.

We will also begin studying engineering and forces and interactions during our science time. Students will evaluate a problem, rescuing a zoo animal, and develop a design process as they develop a solution. They will create simple machines out of Vex IQ blocks. We look forward to our field trip to the DuPage Children's Museum on Wednesday, March 3 for our simple machines lab. We will need four chaperones, so please email me if you would like to chaperone and have not chaperoned yet this year. The field trip form is in today's Friday folder. Please sign and return it.

In writing, we continue our study of informational writing. We discussed the need to think about our audience and work to reach that audience. We also talked about the importance of editing and checking for correct spelling and

punctuation. Everyone has completed an informational book on a topic of their choice, and they will begin a second informational book next week.

In Math, perimeter and area are the focus of our math lessons. We have been furthering our understanding of these two topics by doing activities that use standard units of measurement, and on classifying 2-D figures. We talk about peRIMeter to remind us that perimeter is the measure of the outside of an object, and area is the measure inside an object.




Here is a note from our school nurse:

A Reminder on Valentine's Day Cards – Please remember that valentines should be brought for every student in your child's classroom. valentines may **NOT** contain any type of food or candy items. If your child brings a valentine with candy attached, the candy will be removed and then the valentine to be passed out. If there is no way to separate the candy from the valentine, unfortunately, the valentines will not be allowed to be passed out, and we will ask your child to bring the valentines home. Please help us avoid disappointment and tears and remember not to have candy or food be a part of your child's valentine cards.

Here are some important February/March dates:

2/10- The biocubes/biography speeches are due this week.

2/12 Kids Heart Challenge Day- All donations (cash, change, checks), should be put into the donation envelope and returned to the PE department.

2/14-**Valentine's Day** party 1:00-2:00 p.m. (sharing of valentines) 

2/17 No school - Lincoln's birthday

2/18 No school - Professional Development for teachers

3/3 Field Trip: please bring disposable lunch and drink

January 31, 2020

Lincoln School

Have a wonderful weekend!

Cynthia Mares