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| **Important Upcoming Dates: Only 5 more school days left in Feb!**  **March is reading Month: Wacky Wednesday fun each week**  **March is Reading Month "Wacky Wednesday" Dress Up Days**   * 1st Wednesday - March 4: Pajama Day or Book Character Day * 2nd Wednesday - March 11:  Print Day - animal, stripes, polka dots, etc. * 3rd Wednesday - March 18: America Day - Red, White, and Blue * 4th Wednesday - March 25:  Wacky - CRAZY hair, clothes, mis-match, whatever! * End of Month Celebration - March 27th - Friday - School Spirit Day “Blue and White” - Donuts with mom and dad day!   Upcoming Dates:  Feb. 29th Carnival 4-7pm at RRO  Tues. March 3rd Book Fair  Conferences March 11th & 12th Sign ups are on line . <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4fabad2babfd0-spring>  ½ days 12th & 13th  Spring break April 3-12  ½ day May 22  John Ball Zoo Trip May 15th  No School Memorial Day May 25  ½ days Jun 9 & 10 |

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| **Valentine’s day Celebration:** I was so impressed with all the Valentine’s Day creation boxes! Everyone created a box at home and those boxes were so much fun for the class to show and tell how they were made and see all the different ideas families had to create with love! Thank you to everyone! Your kids had so much fun creating with you! I could see their joy as they told their peers during morning message how they created the valentine box with you. These home connections are not just for more work or for academics, these are a great opportunity for you to spend quality time with your child learning what he/she is interested in and all the strengths he/she has to share. We had a great time at Valentine stations and having valentine treats. Hope you had a wonderful midwinter break with your child. Your child wrote you a Valentine letter that told you all the reason he/she loves you. This was a review of our opinion letter. |

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| **Comprehension test & Spelling Words:**  These comprehension tests are getting lengthier each week. Praise your child’s efforts when these come home. If your child misses any of the questions, ask your child to find the question in the story and underline the question and the answer. This will help with comprehension later. They can read the story as many times as they need to comprehend. They can read the questions and then go back in the text and search for the evidence. Some students need to underline the evidence. This is a great strategy. Practice this strategy with your child if they have any incorrect answers.  **How you can help at home:** Ask us about magic e and how this vowel changes the sounds of other vowels when it is at the end of a word. Ask us how blends change a word and why do we only make one sound? Ask us why sight words are important to memorize. We will begin 2 vowels go walking and the first one does the talking rule, while continuing magic e and blends. We will start with when you see two vowels together the first one does all the talking when sounding out the word. Example: mail /m/ /a/ /l/ is all you hear but the i is silent and tricky. Don’t let him trick you! . |
| **Science & Social Studies:** We are studying maps and created a map of the classroom. We are great at knowing how to be a good citizen! We created an Opinion/Narrative piece on how to be a good citizen. We created a Good Citizen Poster. These are exit outcomes for the report card for this unit and will be coming home for your viewing pleasure. **Come Visit during Science/SS 12:30-1.**  **What you can do at home: Make a map of your house. Create a map key. Have your child bring this map into school to share with our class.**  **Reading & Writing:** We created an Opinion/Narrative piece on how to be a good citizen. We created a Good Citizen Poster. These are exit outcomes for the report card for this unit and will be coming home for your viewing pleasure.  We have completed our Informational personal expertise writing. We should have brought home our writing to share with you. You should have also received the success criteria for informational writing, so you can help us be successful. Informational writers must start with an opening, at least 3 facts that give information about an animal and how the animal’s attributes help him/her survive. As well as a closing to end the informational story.  **What you can do at home:** Ask us what makes to read our presentation to you! These were amazing!  **Come visit during reading time 9-10:20 and/or**  **Writing Time: 12:00-12:30**  **\*Our new writing unit will consist of students knowing/reflecting on the difference between: Narrative/Opinion/Personal Expertise**  **We will review narrative and as your child finishes a narrative piece of writing with all success criteria, they can then pick if they would like to free write an opinion or personal expertise.**  **What you can do at home:** Ask your child what is the success criteria for a personal expertise? What is the success criteria for opinion? What is the success criteria for narrative? These are very different and you are writing each for a different purpose. |
| **Mathematics:**  We are completing our shapes and attributes unit for geometry with symmetry and congruency.  This assessment will be at the end of this week.  **How you can help at home**: Ask your child to tell you two 2D or 3 D shapes. How are these shapes alike? How are they different. Can they be congruent? Can you draw two shapes that are congruent? **Come visit during math time and see our learning. 2:15-3:15**  **\*We started a new unit 6 For problem solving. Please continue to complete the home connections that come home each week to help you focus on the essential from each unit. These essentials will be on each unit assessment at the end of each unit.** |
| **Hats, coat, snow pants and boots: Your child needs to have all winter gear to play out doors at recess. If they do not have boots and snow pants, they cannot play on the playground. They can bring boots into school and change into their gym shoes and then change back into their boots to go home. That way your child does not have to haul shoes back and forth to school. It is really cold out and we go outside twice a day for recess. Please be sure to pack all winter gear each and every day.** |

**Classroom Needs: Clorox wipes, please send in a water bottle for your child to use each week.**

Check out the class Weebly! <http://tinawhiting.weebly.com/>

**We have all our Fun Activities on the Weebly: Just posted photos for Valentine’s Day Party, 100 day celebration and Presidents’ Day Good Citizen Celebration!**

Mrs. Whiting