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| **Important Dates:**  **Jan. 17th End of Semester Marking Period**  **Feb. 14th & 17th No School Midwinter Break**  **April 3rd-April 10th No School Spring Break**  **May 25th -No School Memorial Day**  **June 9th & 10th ½ day Last day of school** |

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| **Happy New Year!**  **We had a New Year Celebration on our First day back on Jan. 6th! We had party hats, blowers and poppers with confetti. We created our new year resolution goals creations. Come check them out in our hallway. We did a count down and shot off poppers. We played games. We reconnected with our friends and shared our Christmas and New Year experiences. We reviewed all our rules and expectations and we are ready to rock 2020! We are committed to become stronger readers, writers, mathematicians, scientists, historians and friends. We are focusing on kindness, helpfulness and friendship. We are trying hard to stay responsible, respectful and safe each day.** |

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| **Spelling words and comprehension test:**  Keep practicing the weekly spelling words that we are working on daily in our reading stations for literacy. We take a comprehension test each week on the story we practice for the week and the spelling rule for the week.  **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. Ask us to write some magic e words that we know. . |
| **Science & Social Studies:** We are studying animal’s attributes, habitat and survival. Also focusing on how these animals can help us and our earth. **Come Visit during Science/SS 12:30-1.**  **Reading & Writing:**  We are starting our Informational personal expertise writing. We should have brought home our Reindeer writing at Christmas that we wrote together 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:** Help us research an animal we are interested in finding out facts about. Help us come up with an opening to get our readers attention, at least 3 facts (animal attributes and how these attributes help us survive.) And a closing to wrap up our writing piece.  **Come visit during reading time 9-10:45 and/or**  **Writing Time: 12:00-12:30** |
| **Mathematics:**  We are focusing on problem solving. We don’t just need to know that 5+2=7 but that 7=5+2 and 7-5=2 and why these number families work together to balance an equation. We create a story problem to match our numerals. We look for missing numbers and focus on why these numbers are important and how these numbers work together.  **How you can help at home**: Ask your child to tell you a story problem. See if you can figure out the missing factor. Ask your child problem solves. Make up a story with numbers within 10. If this is easy, move to numbers within 20. If this is difficult move to numbers within 5. We need to be fluent (within 3 seconds to answer) with numbers 0-10 for 2nd grade and able to use strategies and thinking skills for numbers 11-20. You can do this in the car, at the dinner table, bath time or anytime you are spending moments with your child learning. **Come visit during math time and see our learning. 2:10-3:15** |
| **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 new photos up from our Christmas party and New Year’s Party! Check those out on our fun activities page.

Mrs. Whiting