



Mrs. Bennett's Second Grade News

December 14th - 18th

Reading Comprehension Strategy Focus...

How to **DETERMINE IMPORTANCE**

Beginning in January, our class will be spending time practicing how to distinguish important information from less important details. This essential skill will help them to learn how to identify the main idea in texts that they read. I would like the students to be able to do the following:

- recognize and understand what a detail is
- determine important information from interesting details
- put information into their own words and shape their learning in a new thought (paraphrase)
- react, respond, and merge their thinking with the information to better remember it

Please feel free to practice these reading skills at home when you read with your child.



The Last Frontier

Our next social studies unit will focus on the study of Alaska. We will be exploring cultural differences and similarities, as well as the important role of natural resources in the Alaskan economy. As a part of our unit, I would like to do a mining simulation activity with the kids. In order to do the simulation, I will need approximately 3-4 sheets of brownies. If anyone is interested in volunteering their time to make brownies for our class please let me know. I would like to do the mining simulation toward the end of January.



Time!

Starting in January, we will be working on telling time. Time is not included in the third grade math curriculum, so it is especially important that your children have a solid understanding of how to read the clock this year. We will be working a lot on time vocabulary. If you can please reinforce terms like "quarter to" and "half past" at home, it will help your child tremendously. Additionally, the students need to be able to determine if they have enough time for things. For example, if it takes 30 minutes to do chores, and you have to be to school by 8:00, what time should you wake up in the morning? This type of critical thinking is important to truly understanding the concept of time. Thank you for your continued support in helping to reinforce these concepts at home!



On the Horizon

- Winter Break
(Dec. 21st- Jan. 5th)
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
(No School Jan. 18th)
- Class Pictures
(Jan. 20th)
- Parent Literacy Training
(Jan. 20th 6:30-8:00)



Personal Presentations...

Rachel	1/8	11:50
Alexander	1/15	11:50
Elise'	1/22	11:50



A reminder about snack time...

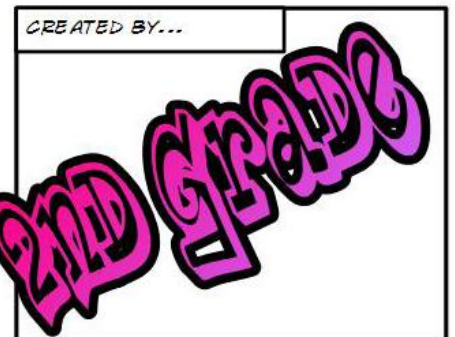
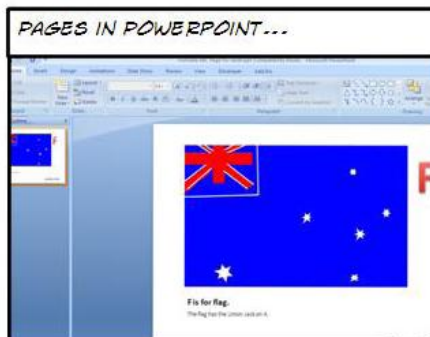
Second grade doesn't go to lunch until 11:30, so we have a snack at 9:15 to help the kids maintain their focus and energy throughout the morning. Lately, a few children have been coming to school without a snack. Please help remind your children to bring a snack every day. Thank you!



I hope you all have a wonderful winter break and I look forward to seeing you again in 2010!

Check Out Our Latest Computer Lab Project...

To see the entire **ABC's of Australia Book**, please visit our classroom website at www.mrsbennettsclass.org



The ABC's of Australia

MRS. BENNETT'S CLASS

DECEMBER 10, 2009