Dear Families,

We had so much fun on our snowshoeing field trip. Be sure to check out the pictures on the blog. The winter seems to be dragging on for a bit longer, so please remember to send warm outdoor gear for your child to wear.

**Upcoming Dates**

**February 13:** Our Valentines Day party will be held on Friday from 12:10 to 1:00. If you have signed up to help, please arrive at 11:50, so I can explain the games to you ahead of time. I only have 3 moms signed up to help the day of the party. I really need 4 or 5 to run all of the centers planned. If you are around Friday, please consider coming in to help out.

If your child would like to exchange Valentines with their friends, please send them in with them any day this week. We will be making Valentine boxes on Wednesday, so if you empty out a cereal box this week, please send it in with your child.

**March 9:** Records Day - No school for kids

**Reading**

Our reading unit for February is Biographies. The kids are having a ball learning about important people in history. They will read several biographies this month and we will conclude by having a living museum of their favorite person. (More details to come.)

**Math:** We will finish up Unit 4 this week with a test on Tuesday. The kids are pretty good at adding and subtracting three digit numbers correctly, but have a bit more difficulty when the problems are inside a word problem. So, lucky for them unit 5 will be all word problems using all four operations (+, −, ×, ÷). The focus will be on finding key words that guide students to know which operation to choose. This is a tough unit. Please help your child complete their homework pages.

**Social Studies:** We finished up the economics unit last week, so the kids will head back to Mrs. McDonald for science this week. She will be teaching the kids about force and motion. Please watch for flash cards to come home for the kids to study.

**Writer's Workshop**

Nearly all of the kids reports are printed and ready for you to view at conference time. You will be quite impressed with your child’s work. We are now working on realistic fiction pieces. The kids will be creating characters that have a problem and taking them through events to an end solution.

**Spelling:** We are now on unit 18 in spelling, which is working on the long “I” sound found in words like fright, side, and reply. We will test on these words on Friday.

**Star Student**

Week of February 9: Damien
Week of February 16:
Please send in pictures to share and have your child fill out the star student form

Have a great week!

~Nancy Flory~