

# 1-DG Update

## February 2, 2024

### Reminders:

- February 12: Please bring valentines into school
- February 14: Valentine Exchange
- February 16: CAS program: *Lisa the Wise* shadow puppet show
- February 19-23: February vacation week
- March 8: RSVP for Math IN
- March 13: Math IN 8:30a.m.-8:55a.m.
- March 27, April 2 and 3: Spring conferences

### Highlights of our week

- The students focused on blends that contain the letter "r." They built words such as: brain, crisp, dragon, french fries, groundhog, prize and truck.
- They learned the poem: "In Praise of Penguins."
- In *Foundations*, we practiced blends; digraph blends; words with a baseword and suffix s; and trick words. On Friday we took an end of unit 8 assessment.
- In reading workshop, we reviewed the differences between fiction, realistic fiction and nonfiction. Each first grader found evidence to determine whether their Expert Books this week were realistic fiction or not. Please ask your child if their book was realistic fiction or not and how they knew.
- During our read aloud time, we finished the book The Penguin Who Wanted to Find Out, by Jill Tomlinson and started a new book, The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark, by the same author.
- In writing workshop, the first graders wrote more WEE Deliver letters to members of the Sprague community.
- In math we took an end of unit 4 assessment about halves, fourths and fish comparison problems. Then we started unit 5 which focuses on number games. We will be doing a lot of work with combinations of ten during this unit. This week we did *Quick Images with Tens Frames* and played the game Make 10.
- In science we read part of the book Sounds All Around, by Wendy Pfeffer. We explored more sound sources and planned which sound effects to use in our puppet show presentations.
- In social studies, we read the book On the Town: A Community Adventure, by Judith Caseley and then each first grader picked a community helper to research in the coming weeks. Please ask your first grader which community helper they will be researching.
- Our *Second Step* SEL lesson focused on noticing behavior clues, labeling feelings and demonstrating ways to feel calm. The first graders did a great job demonstrating all they have learned about noticing, naming and supporting feelings. Our next *Second Step* unit will focus on problem-solving.
- On Wednesday morning, Stephanie Holland (K-12 METCO director) came in as our special guest reader. She read the book If You Laugh, I'm Starting This Book Over, by Chris Harris and Serge Bloch.

-On Friday afternoon in honor of filling our entire Kindness Heart Chart, the first graders voted to watch a movie as a reward. The movie *Paddington* was playing and students had the opportunity to watch parts or all of it while coloring quietly.

**Note:**

We will have a Valentine Card Exchange on Wednesday, February 14! If your child would like to give cards to his or her classmates, please address them at home (have your child write the names independently for practice) and bring them in on Monday, February 12 (this gives us time to distribute them before the actual day). A list of names is attached to this week's homework packet. To prevent hurt feelings, please bring a valentine for each student. Please do not attach chocolate or candy to the valentines.

-Dara Gaul