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# Here's What's Happening in Second Grade!

Mrs. Adams' Class

February 9-13, 2015

## Reading

This week in reading we began a new unit during our mini-lesson time on **FLUENCY**. We learned that fluency relates to how you sound when you read. Each day, we learned a new strategy to help us read with fluency. We discovered how to read with *Pausing*, which means taking your time to look at the punctuation mark and either make a full

stop (period), take a little pause (comma), make your voice go up (question mark), or read with feeling (exclamation point). Next, we learned to read with *Phrasing*, which means to group your words together like talking. The third strategy we practiced is to *Stress* your voice when you notice capital, bold, or italicized words. Fourth, we

learned to use *Expression* in our voice to make meaning. And finally, we learned how to read at an appropriate *Pace*. When we integrate all these strategies, we increase our fluency. Talk about these at home with your child while reading the Take Home Books. We are excited to see these strategies modeled by our Interpretive Readers next week!

## Writing

We are in between units of study in writing, so before beginning our next unit, we did some Writing About Math, so the children have experience writing about

their thinking and explaining how they solved a problem. We also learned how to take notes to help us keep track of our thinking and remember what we learned. Then, the children used their notes to write a mini

informational article in which they completed the draft, revising, and editing process in one sitting, to resemble what they will do next year on the Badger Exam.

## Math

This week in math we took some time to celebrate the 100th Day of School with some Number Grid games and estimates. The children had lots of fun with the number 100 this week! We sang songs, created artwork out of the digits in

100, and had a treat shaped like 100 with Oreos and Twizzlers. Also in math this week, we had an introduction to division. We learned how to divide things into equal groups and how to identify a remainder that did not fit into the groups

equally. We took our Unit 6 Assessment and began Unit 7 on Friday. This unit will cover telling time with am/pm, counting patterns, and finding rules in function machines. Unit 7 is quite short, and we will begin Unit 8 very soon.

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## Upcoming Events:

2/17—Classroom Level Interpretive Reading Contest  
2/20—Early Release  
2/23, 2/24—OLSAT testing

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## Reminders:

Students who are participating in the Interpretive Reading Contest should be ready to read next Tuesday with two copies of their book.

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## Next Week's Specials

Monday: PE

Tuesday: Music

Wednesday: IMC, Art

Thursday: PE

Friday: PE

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## Science

In science the children moved from investigating solids to investigating liquids. They learned vocabulary words like viscous, transparent, and translucent.

## Social Studies

In social studies we learned about what it takes to be a good leader, and how we elect leaders by voting. We learned how the voting process works and why important it is for everyone to take advantage of their right to vote.

We held a mini-election in our classroom in which the children voted on whether or not they'd like our classroom to be on the first floor. The majority of students voted no! We discussed the results and the rationale.

## Health/Guidance/Handwriting

This week we spent time learning about the importance of Kindness. With Valentine's Day approaching, we focused on ways we could show we care about others. We read the book *Each Kindness*. The author's message in the story is that each act of kindness makes the world a

better place. Similar to how water ripples across a pond when a stone is thrown into it, kindness spreads too! We each threw a penny into a container of water and shared a time when we showed kindness to others. We watched the ripples move across the water and visualized our

kindness spreading to others. We also did an activity in which each child wrote something kind about another child in our class, and we continued passing the papers around so everyone had a collection of kind words and compliments to reflect on.

## Special Announcements

### OLSAT Testing

2nd graders in Fort Atkinson will be taking the OLSAT test on February 23 and 24. More information will follow.

### Math Game of the Week:

[www.everydaymathonline.com](http://www.everydaymathonline.com) is different than [Xtramath.org](http://Xtramath.org). Both offer practice with flashcards, but Xtramath is individualized for the student and identifies only the facts that the child needs to master. Both websites are valuable resources!

### Ask Your Child:

- What is fluency?
- Why do we take notes?
- Which book did you choose for your Book Review?