

Hello Parents!

I feel as though I was just saying, "I can't believe it's November!" and now here I am saying, "I can't believe it's December!" This is a busy month with all the holiday activities going on. It is very important to be reading all of the memos and newsletters that come home this month!

We have begun our third theme in Reading, "Let's Look Around." Last week we read a non-fiction article about the seasons. The kids also got into small groups and brainstormed about the different seasons. The comprehension skill we focused on was topic, main idea, and details. This can be tricky for kids and will be something we will continue to work on throughout the year. The vowel we reviewed was the short a, and we also talked about words that have a double consonant on the end. For example, full has a double l.

\*\*This week we are starting to take spelling tests. We will have a pre-test on Mondays and then a spelling test on Friday. Your child's pre-test will come home on Monday with the spelling list. Please help your child review these words throughout the week. We do many activities with these words in class as well. \*\*

In Math we are working on Math Mountains. This is another way to show the fact families. The students all made their own math mountain that they are climbing up. They will be displayed on our door later this week, come check them out! Remember, your child only needs to do the "Homework" side of the worksheet that comes home. Also, homework at night should not be taking any longer than 20 minutes. If your child is struggling to get it done in that amount of time, have them stop and write me a note telling me.

I would like to take the opportunity to clear up some confusion about the food allergy policy and treats. It is our school policy that the teacher is notified 48 hours in advance of any treats you will be sending in. *This allows the parents of students who need accommodations to make those accommodations for **their** child.* This does not mean that you need to make the accommodations. Your child has the right to bring in any treat they want for their birthday, however, I need to know the specifics of that treat at least 48 hours in advance. If you have any questions about this policy, do not hesitate to contact me!

There are a lot of events coming up... Here is the rundown:

1. Tomorrow (Tuesday) is school spirit day. Your child should wear any Edgartown gear they have or red and white to show their school pride.
2. Wednesday will be our buying day at the Bookfair. Your child should have come home with a wish list last Wednesday. Please send that in along with money if you would like your child to make any purchases. If you would like to join them in buying, we head up at 2:00. Feel free to come shop with your child!
3. On Friday we will be heading out to the garden to help get it ready for winter. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately. We will not go out if it is raining, but we will if it is chilly.
4. The time of year has come again for all of us to participate in the Annual Red Stocking Fund. Traditionally, the students and staff of the Edgartown School bring in food items to fill baskets for distribution during this holiday season. Our class is in charge of bringing in Raisins (2 one-pound boxes or 2 six-packs). Please send these in no later than **next Tuesday**, December 13. Thank you!

5. Our holiday concert is **next Tuesday**, December 13. The concert begins at 6:30 pm, but students should be dropped off at our classroom at 6:10 pm.

Have a great week!

Megan McDonald ☺