

# International Update

Ms. Marshall's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class

January 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Welcome back! I hope that everyone had a very fun, relaxing, and enjoyable Christmas break!**

## **What are we learning?**

### Language Arts:

We are continuing Unit 3 with the fantasy story, *Click, Clack, Moo, Cows That Type*. Through this story, students will look at how writing is one way a person can express ideas and opinions. We will be looking at the comprehension strategy of visualizing what is happening in the story. Visualizing is important because it can help students remember the important parts of a story or article. In addition to that, we will be looking at the skill of cause and effect, which will help students better understand what happens in a story and why it happens.

This week, the grammar focus is on the verb *have*, as well as, capitalization of book titles and using a thesaurus to help us with synonyms.

In Writing, students will start looking at the fundamentals of cursive and Step Up To Writing paragraphs.

### Math:

We will be reviewing concepts taught in Ch. 9 the week prior to our Christmas break, as well as, continue working on adding and subtracting three-digit numbers, regrouping tens as hundreds, and working with money.

As always, practice those Math facts in the car, on the couch, before bed... any chance you can get please help your student build their knowledge of these facts and of the place value system.

\*\* Addition & subtraction up to 100.

\*\* Flashcards are a great option and can easily be carried around with you ☺.

In addition to math facts, please work with your child on place value and have them always start an addition or subtraction problem from right (ones column) to left.

### Social Studies:

Students will continue Unit 4 and their learning of how we use our resources. We will focus on the big idea that people have always needed the land and its resources in order to live. We will learn about how people got their food long ago, how farmers of today use technology to produce food, and how food gets from the farm to our kitchen tables.

### Science:

Students will learn about fossils and how they provide evidence about the plants and animals that lived long ago. They will also read about how scientists use fossils to learn about the past history of Earth.

### Religion:

This week we will review the vocabulary students should be familiar with before receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation and begin practicing the "Act of Contrition." In addition, students will read about St. Martin of Tours and the story of the Good Samaritan.

Please use the print out of the "Act of Contrition" to start practicing the prayer with your student in preparation for First Reconciliation.

**\*We will be testing the students the week of January 16<sup>th</sup>.**

First Reconciliation will be Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 at 7pm and Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 10am.

### Spelling Words

Words with long u spelling patterns (magic e and ue): **cube, amuse, mute, true, flute, June, include, confuse, Tuesday, & cruel**

### Story Vocabulary

**Neutral, furious, impatient, emergency, demand, & sincerely**

### Teacher Notes

Thank you all for the extremely generous Christmas gifts! There are no words to express how grateful I am to have such a giving and supportive class.

I want to thank Mrs. Simonsen and Mrs. Karic for planning an enjoyable Christmas party and Mrs. Matusich and Mrs. Spencer for helping out. The kids all had a great time!!

Please continue to check your child's Weekly Work folder for tests that need to be signed and class work that can be kept at home. We are **still** finding many folders full of work in the "Keep at Home" pocket. We do not need these any more ☺; you may do with them as you wish!

### Important Dates

**Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>:** Weekly Reading & Spelling tests

**Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>:** No school- MLK Jr. Day

**Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>:** Start testing students on "Act of Contrition."

**Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>:** First Reconciliation Mtg. # 2 @ 7pm

**Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>:** Start of Catholic School's Week

### Student Celebrations

No Weekly Traveler this week.

Congratulations to the following students for reaching **Outstanding** the week of Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>:

Mason Spencer

Sabrina Robles

Max Wosczyzna

Riley Simonsen

Victor Gonzalez  
Natalija Grizelj  
Drew Carroll  
Fiona Huang  
Carson Smith

\*\*As always, I ask you to please remind your student that remaining on green is not a bad thing and to not get upset if they do not move their clip up (think of the chart as the card system.... Green is the top card... if you go beyond green it shows that you are going above and beyond what is expected of you).

\*\* I am looking for **consistency** in behaviors so that we can form good habits!