

NEWS FROM ROOM 15

Three things in human life are important. The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. And the third is to be kind. – Henry James

Dates to Remember

Mid-Year Testing

-Monday, January 11 -
Friday, January 22

Skating Party

-Monday, January 18

Hat for a Cause

-Wednesday, January 20

Staff Basketball Game

-Friday, January 22

Mid-Winter Break

-Wednesday, February 17 -
Friday, February 19

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Staff Basketball Game

Come one, come all to our staff basketball game! It is a fun family event and a great way to connect with our Pinewood Community, enjoy a Friday evening of basketball and help those in need. We will be playing with Bursley and the ECC. You can order tickets in advance. Please check your child's Friday Folder for an order form. All proceeds from the game will go to A-T Children's Research or Jenison Pink Out. Don't forget the great half-time entertainment. This year it will include a live version of Hungry Hungry Hippos, featuring some of your favorite staff members.

Speaking of basketball, please remember the Jenison Pink Out game. This is an incredible event hosted every year to benefit cancer patients in the Jenison area. Order forms for t-shirts are available in your child's Friday Folder.





Reading

We started back in our Storytown books with a unit on Author's Purpose. We learned that there are three main reasons why authors write: to persuade, to inform, and to entertain. We remembered these with the acronym PIE and we worked on determining the author's purpose by finding evidence in the text. Please keep up with reading logs and reading at home. Also next week begins our mid-year testing for reading and math.

Writing

We are doing a writing project with a class from Kansas. We are both writing persuasive essays to send to each other about ideas for how to make the world a better place in 2016. We brainstormed our "big idea" this week and crafted our introduction. Next week we will add our examples and our conclusion, and then send our letters out for our friends to

Math

We started back at school with a study of area. We began by getting a good understanding of what area is. We then learned how we measured area—by covering the space with square units, whether they are square centimeters, square inches, etc. We discussed real-life examples of when we might use area. We then did an exploration where we realized that we can find the area of rectangles by multiplying. We are working on some problem solving activities that involve area as well. Next week we will start discussing the concept of perimeter. **Please keep working with your child on basic facts for time tests.**

Science

We started this week with Science class with Mrs. Scholma. The first unit is a study of Earth Science. The beginning of the unit focuses on minerals, and how they are the building blocks of rocks.

