



Smith Spectacular December 12, 2017



It is beginning to feel more like winter! Please remember we go outside every day. Boots, hats and mittens are a must for the cool temperatures. In order to play in the snow, students need to wear snow pants. Please let us know if you need help in obtaining these items.

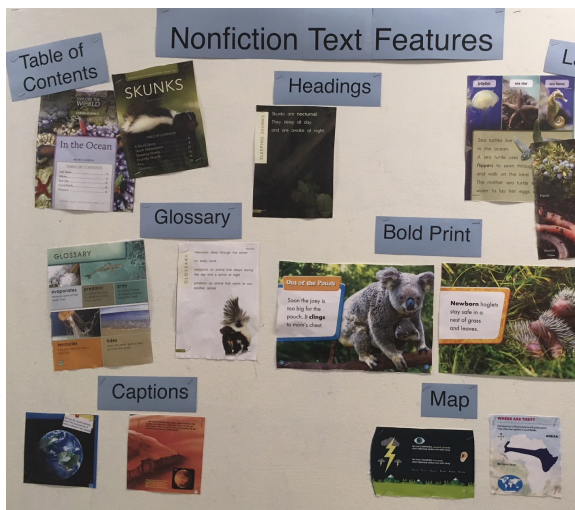
Mrs. Kenney's second grade reading groups have been focusing on text features such as table of contents, glossary, diagrams, labels and captions. The students are learning how these features help us to better understand what the author is telling us about. We are finding that the glossaries are especially helpful when we are reading nonfiction because there are some new words that we do not know. In many of the books we are reading, the new vocabulary is often in **bold print** which helps us to know that the meaning can be found in the glossary. We used our ipads to read and listen to nonfiction books on the EPIC app. Then, we used the camera on our ipads to take pictures of some of the text features and worked together to create a bulletin board.

Building Holiday Traditions

We know that the holidays are such a busy time for everyone. It is important that families continue to support their children in their reading. What better way to build holiday traditions then to incorporate reading. Please consider these ideas for your children:

- Read a holiday story to your child each night. Some of your old favorites as well as some new titles.
- Have your child write names on gift tags. Think of all the names they will learn.
- Bake something together. Reading cooking directions together is a great way to practice reading.
- Consider buying your child a book or two for the holidays. Look for books at their reading level as well as read alouds that you will enjoy reading to them.
- Play board games. Board games are a fun way to practice reading as well as bring the whole family together.

Enjoy the holiday!
Warm Wishes,
The Reading Room



INSTALL A GROWTH MINDSET!



As we all continue to develop a better understanding of what it means to have a **GROWTH MINDSET**, here are some great resources to offer examples of what that looks like when put into practice.

BOOKS

Beautiful Oops, by Barney Saltzberg
The Dot, by Peter H. Reynolds
Ish, by Peter H. Reynolds
Your Fantastic, Elastic Brain: Stretch It, Shape It, by JoAnn Deak

MOVIES

Big Hero 6 (2014, Disney)
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs (2009, Sony Pictures Animation)
Inside Out (2015, Disney Pixar)
Zootopia (2016, Disney)

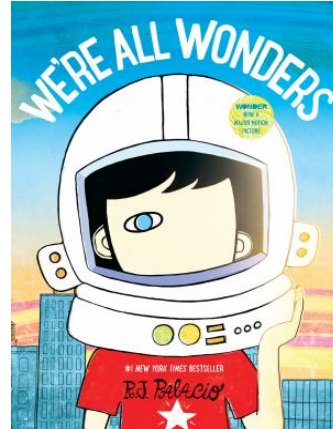
SONGS

"The Climb" by Miley Cyrus
"Don't Give Up" performed by Bruno Mars on *Sesame Street*
"Firework" by Katy Perry
"Power or Yet" performed by Janelle Monae on *Sesame Street*

Mrs. Spencer's kindergarten literacy groups are becoming alphabet experts. We have learned most of the letter names and sounds, now we are practicing how to blend sounds together to make words. We also practice saying a word slowly to hear and recognize individual sounds. The students have enjoyed many different activities to help them learn letter sounds. A favorite activity for the groups is the "mystery

hat", which students are able to select an object from the hat and sort the object by its beginning sound.

Library



We're All Wonders, by R.J. Palacio, is inspired by her middle-grade book *Wonder*. Auggie enjoys spending time with his dog, Daisy, and using his

imagination. Auggie endures the jeers and taunts from others because of his facial deformity, but we are lead into a journey into the amazing person he is, despite his physical differences. *We're All Wonders* just won the *Goodreads Choice Awards* of 2017 for best picture book.

We completed our annual Coin Drive. Students collected 240 lbs of coins for a total of \$1238.00. Wow! The money will go into PIE's general account to support field trips, teacher supplies, playground equipment, etc.

Kindergarten at All School

Kindergarten is planning to perform at our next All School on Thursday, December 21. Please come and listen to us sing a holiday song (it might even be about Santa himself.....)!



A slice of Pie! (Partners in Education)

We hope you can join us at Smith School on **Saturday, Dec. 16th** for our annual Holiday Movie event! Smith School students participated in a school-wide election and voted on their two favorite holiday movies to be played at the event: "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." Bring a blanket and a pillow and curl up with some popcorn, treats, and holiday fun! There will be raffles for children and adults as well as a gift for every child after the last movie. The schedule for the afternoon is as follows:

- 1:45 DOORS OPEN
- 2:00 Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
- 2:45 Intermission/Raffle Drawings
- 3:15 How the Grinch Stole Christmas
- The event will conclude at 4:00 pm

PIE has been selected by the Hampden Hannaford to be "Cause Bag" recipients for this entire month! All you have to do is purchase a reusable "Cause" shopping bag at the Hampden Hannaford and they will donate \$1 directly to PIE for every bag sold during the month of December! Thanks for helping to support Smith School by participating in this fundraiser next time you shop at Hannaford!

The 2017 Smith School Coin Drive was a great success! Students collected 240 pounds of coins totaling \$1238.00! Money raised will be used to support things like field trips, classroom supplies, and educational materials. Thank you all for your participation!

Just a reminder, you can help to raise money for Smith School just by using Amazon Smile when you do your holiday shopping on Amazon. It only takes a moment to create an amazon.smile account to support "Partners In Education, Inc." 5% of every sale goes directly to Smith School!

Next PIE meeting date: **Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 6:30** in the library.

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, Dec. 12: PIE meeting, 6:30 Library

Friday, Dec. 15: Top Hat Performance, 1:00 Smith School Gym

Wednesday, Dec. 20: School Wide Field Trip, HA, Music Concert 9-11

Friday, Dec. 22: School Wide Winter Wonderland @ Wagner, 8-11

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE A LUNCH SWITCH: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20 WILL BE "FISH N CHIPS" AND THURSDAY, DEC. 21 WILL BE HOMEMADE CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP.