

# Notes from Mrs. Bosch

Friday, January 24, 2020



GROVE AVENUE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Continuing Conversations at Home:

\* Writing: We are working on a writing unit with the focus of argumentative writing. Ask your child about the meaning of words such as: *opinion*, *convince*, and *reason*.

\* Social Studies: We began discussing how to be a good friend. Students brainstormed ideas after listening to a story and role-played to demonstrate ideas. This discussion will lead into discussions about what makes a good citizen. Ask: What are some actions or qualities of a good friend?

## Dates to Remember:

- \* Friday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> – Author Liesl Shurtliff Visits Grove
- \* Thursday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Day Party, 1:30 p.m.
- \* Friday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> – In-Service, No School for Students
- \* Monday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> – Presidents' Day, No School
- \* Tuesday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> – Referendum Open House at Grove, 7 p.m.
- \* March 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> – Parent-Teacher Conferences

## Notes:

◆ **Grove's Family Reading Program:** Yesterday was a magical day at Grove as we kicked-off the annual Family Reading Program with an all-school assembly, a teacher-performed skit and special time designated for reading. Please help us build excitement about reading during these dreary winter months. Reading minutes can be accumulated in different ways. Make it a family event during which everyone reads together on some days. It is a wonderful opportunity to have some one-on-one time with your child as the two of you share and discuss a book. Each family will receive the book, *Masterpiece*, by Elise Broach to read together as a family. Students should also continue completing some reading minutes independently. Students will be filling out a special reading log and earning fun incentives by reading. In order to build reading stamina, first graders are expected to read for 30 minutes a day. If students fall behind on reading minutes, it can be difficult to catch up. Please encourage lots of reading, even on the weekends.

◆ **Valentine's Day:** Our party will be held at the end of the day on Thursday, 2/13. Passing out Valentines is not a required activity, but if your child decides to participate, he or she must have a Valentine for every student in the class. Students do not need to address each Valentine, as it makes passing the Valentines out more difficult. A child may address the Valentines if he/she would like to do so. There are 18 students total: Tanav, Milo, Claire, Isaiah, Christo, Soha, Christana, Paige, Ben, Vanessa, Lilly, Isaac, Stefan, Raya, Elin, Molly, Evan, and Iris.

## Learning:

◆ **Math:** Students took the assessment for adding and subtracting numbers to 20. Please look it over with your child this weekend. For the next couple weeks, we will take a break from a focus on computation as we study the measurement of length and then picture graphs and bar graphs. After that, students will return to studying computation with a focus on adding and subtracting to 40 with and without regrouping. Games in the math game binder will continue to focus on math fact practice.

◆ **Writing:** Our writers have been drafting up a storm about their collections. They have written their opinions about which piece is the best, second best, third best and also the least favorite. Students also had the chance to politely disagree with another person's idea of the best piece in a collection. They are learning how to write persuasively and organize their opinions. Students know that it is important to begin an opinion piece by stating your opinion, use transitions to signal the start of new reasons, provide several convincing reasons for your opinion and explain your reasons or give examples. Next up, students will become review writers!

◆ **Second Step:** At times, people may experience a strong feeling of worry. Students learned the importance of using steps to calm down when they feel a strong sense of worry. Ask your child, "What are some steps you can take to calm down when you are feeling worried?" (*Stop-use a signal to help yourself to stop. Name your feeling. Use a calming strategy such as slow breaths, counting, or positive self-talk. Once calm, think about some options to help you through the situation that is causing you to worry.*)

◆ **Word Study:** Students have been studying the three-letter blends: scr, spl, spr, squ, str. This is proving to be a difficult spelling concept for some, especially "squ". Check out the spelling dictation sheet and word study journal coming home today. Asking your child to correctly write out words that were missed on the spelling dictation sheet is a good way to practice. Please have your child practice reading and spelling the following high-frequency words: *once, upon, hurt, that, because, from, their, when.*