

Notes from Mrs. Bosch

Friday, February 28, 2020



GROVE AVENUE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Continuing Conversations about Leap Year: We watched an interesting Mystery Science video explaining why we add February 29th to our calendar every fourth year. Ask your child to explain why this is necessary. *(The Earth makes a trip around the Sun every 365 days AND SIX HOURS. The six hours are added together to make the extra day every fourth year. This keeps our calendar in sync with the seasons.)*

Dates to Remember:

- * Friday, March 6th -Report Cards Open for Parents to View
- * Monday, March 9th -Meet the Teacher Opens for Parents to Sign Up for a Conference Time
- * March 18th and 19th -Parent-Teacher Conferences
- * March 20th - 29th -Spring Break
- * Tuesday, March 31st -Trip to see the play *Charlotte's Web*

Notes:

◆ **Family Reading Program:** This week concluded Grove's annual family reading program. Students enjoyed participating in a special STEM activity. I am happy to say that all students met or exceeded the goal of 1,050 minutes. Thank you to parents for stirring up excitement about reading and helping your child log their minutes. Please keep strong reading habits going. We will switch back to our regular classroom log, and first graders should be more independent with filling out the log.

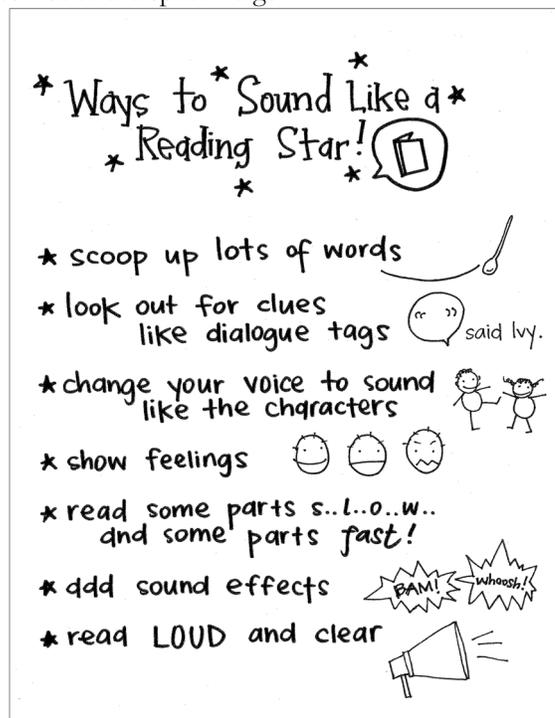
Learning:

◆ **Word Study:** Students have been studying spelling patterns for the long i sound. These patterns include: i at the end of a syllable, _y, -ind, -igh, ie, and i-consonant-e. We spent the most time focusing on i-consonant-e words. Please have your child practice reading and spelling the high-frequency words: *start, why, right, many, large, her, after, call.*

◆ **Writing:** Students are now writing book reviews. They began by selecting a favorite book, thinking about reasons why they like it, and drafting an introduction. One lesson focused on the importance of giving a sneak peek (summary) of a book without spilling the beans (giving away the ending).

◆ **Math:** This past week we have been studying the place value of numbers to 40. Students explored numbers from 20-40 by building the numbers on a place value chart, counting and spelling the number words. They applied the concepts of place value and more than/less than with these greater numbers. These are concepts with which the students are familiar because we have practiced them with numbers to 20. The concepts studied in chapter 12 are the foundation for chapter 13: Addition and Subtraction to 40. During this next chapter, the students will: add and subtract without regrouping, add and subtract with regrouping, add three numbers, and solve real-world problems. More time will be devoted to this challenging chapter.

◆ **Reading:** This week, we have been practicing "Ways to Sound like a Reading Star." It is important that students are smooth and expressive readers when they read aloud. (The way they read aloud is generally indicative of how they read independently.) See the chart below to view the strategies students have been practicing. Rereading texts helps students to practice their fluency and notice speech tags, especially those that come after the speech. We practiced letting our eyes skip ahead to notice the speech tags.



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Next week, students will focus on understanding words rather than just reading them. We are beginning to realize that many of us just pass by words of which we do not know the meaning without giving them any thought. It is important for students to monitor their comprehension of a text, its sentences and its words. We will be practicing the following:

- noticing when the meaning of a word is unfamiliar
- stopping to reread sentences around a word to look for clues to its meaning
- studying pictures for clues
- thinking of a synonym for a word and rereading the sentence with the synonym to see if it makes sense.