



## 2nd Grade January News



Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed the holidays and had a nice vacation! We are happy to be back and are ready to get back into the swing of things! Here is what we will be doing this month!

**Author of the Month:** The author of the month is Patricia Polacco. She is an excellent children's author and illustrator, and we are looking forward to enjoying her books! Here is her website if you would like to learn more about her: <http://www.patriciapolacco.com>.

**Math:** We will be working in Unit 5. In this unit, students will be observing similarities and differences among various shapes and will explore spatial relationships through several hands on activities. Students will develop the concepts of point and line segment, and they will learn to identify, name, and classify polygons. They will then be observing similarities and differences among three dimensional shapes, and will begin to explore symmetry.

We will also continue to make flashcards for a different set of addition facts each week. Students will take the cards home on Monday and be responsible for studying them all week. Students have been doing an excellent job memorizing these facts!

**Spelling:** We will be covering units 16-19 this month. These units will concentrate on words spelled with ch or sh, th or wh, and words that end with nd, ng, or nk.

**Reading:** We will be starting a new component of our reading program. Students will learn how to make connections to the books they read. Students will be introduced to three types of connections: text to text, text to self, and text to world. As a class we will discuss these different connections, and students will then start to look for these connections as they read independently. When reading a book independently, students will be asked to keep sticky notes in their books with their connections written on them. Each student will need their own set of Post-it notes. We would appreciate if you could send these in with your child by next week.

Students will also be asked to do their very first book report for an "at home" project. Students will be asked to choose a book, and do a Cereal Box Book Report. Students will get the chance to be creative and have fun with this project! More information about this project will be sent home shortly.

**Social Studies:** We are continuing our unit on Native Americans. We explored the Pueblo, Lenape, and Comanche People using a literature-based approach. For each tribe, students learned about their food, shelter, transportation, location, art, and games. We read Arrow to the Sun (Pueblo), Rainbow Crow (Lenape), and The Legend of the Bluebonnet (Comanche). For each story, we made predictions, learned new

vocabulary, and made some beautiful art projects!

**Upcoming Events/Important Reminders:**

- **Monday, January 16th:** No School (Martin Luther King Day)
- **Thursday, January 19th:** 6:00- 7:30 p.m. Open House for 2012-2013 school year
- **Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>:** Curriculum Theme Night Read –a-Thon at Bridgewater Public Library (More details will be sent home soon!)
- **Wednesday, January 25th:** Half Day

Please remember to send in snow pants, boots, mittens, and hats with your child. Students will need them for outdoor recess! Thank you!

Any questions or concerns please email us at [novogratz@southbrookacademy.org](mailto:novogratz@southbrookacademy.org), [rizzo@southbrookacademy.org](mailto:rizzo@southbrookacademy.org), or [riley@southbrookacademy.org](mailto:riley@southbrookacademy.org). Thank you so much for your continued support!

-Mrs. Novogratz, Mrs. Rizzo, and Mrs. Riley