**Miss Pitler and Mrs. Hines’ Kindergarten Newsletter - January 2016**

**January:**
6th - Magnet Open House, 10am
14th - Electives End (Q2)
15th - ﻿EARLY RELEASE (Dismissal 1:15pm) ﻿
          2nd Quarter Ends
18th - NO SCHOOL (Holiday)
19th - NO SCHOOL (Teacher Workday)
22nd - Field Trip (Marbles Museum)
25th - Electives Begin (Q3)
25th - Parent Conferences, Time TBD
29th - Book Exchange

**January Themes:**
Snowmen/Snow/Resolutions
Hot Cocoa & Mittens
Arctic Animals
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**Happy New Year!**I hope everyone had a wonderful and restful break.

**Supplies Needed**: small cotton balls, dry erase markers, glue sticks, h**oneycomb shaped pasta or cereal, goldfish crackers,**baby wipes, foam snowflake shapes (sometimes at Target in the $1 section), silver glitter
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**Assessments:**  Early this month, we will assess the students in both literacy and math to see how much progress they have made! Be sure to visit our class website for parent resources to work with your child.

In literacy, your child will be assessed on First Sound Fluency (telling us the beginning sound of a word), Letter Name Fluency (telling letter names for both upper/lowercase letters), Nonsense Word Fluency (Reading sounds/words of nonsense words--zeb, huk, etc.), Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (breaking apart the sounds in a word - ship = sh-i-p), reading high frequency words, and reading level. In math, students will be assessed on all we have learned from the beginning of the year: number identification (0-100), counting to 100 by 1s, and10s, subitizing, counting objects in an array, line and scattered, teen number, counting on from 10, identify the missing number (5, \_\_\_, 7), quantity discrimination  - more/less (7, 9), count forward from any given number, writing numbers 1-20, positional words (such as above, below, beside, in front of, behind, and next to), identifying shapes regardless of orientation or size (square, rectangle, oval, circle, triangle, hexagon, cone, sphere, cylinder, cube), describing and comparing attributes of shapes (vertices, sides, faces, corners, angles) of 2-D(flat) and 3-D shapes (solids), building and drawing shapes

**Book Orders**: Scholastic Book Orders will be sent home in next Mondays folder and are due by Wednesday, January 20.

**Chaperones Needed**:  If you have been approved as a chaperone by WCPSS you are welcome to meet us at Marble Museum for our field trip on January 22nd. We are in need of several chaperones to guide a small group about the museum. We will be arriving 10am and departing at 12noon (times are approximate). Please email me if you can help!

**Career Volunteers Needed**: Do you have an interesting, fun, unique career that you’d like to share with our Kindergarten students? We are in need of volunteers to share during Career Week in February. If you can help, please email me and let me know what you’d like to share.

**Winter Weather Arrives:**Baby its cold outside! ... and we were dressed for the weather. We had a quick lesson today about keeping up with our hats, gloves etc. by placing them in our pockets. We will try our best, but please label any clothing with your child's name.

**Items from Home:**  Please keep all toys, trading cards etc. safe at home. We have plenty here to keep us busy!

**BOYD in Kindergarten:**The K team is excited to launch BYOD! On Fridays in January, your child is welcome to bring their device. You and your child need to submit the BYOD contract prior to sending a device. In addition we need your device ready to go. This includes being connected to our WAKE-BYOD Wifi, and downloading some apps we will be utilizing. Please download the app for RazKids and a QR Reader,Both apps are free! We will likely ask for additional downloading as we progress. Bare with us--December will be our chance to “practice” with our devices and work out the kinks, so we are ready to integrate technology for our units after the new year. As noted in the contract your child will be responsible for their device. They will keep it in their backpacks and our classrooms will be locked when a teacher/TA is not present in the room. Students will be required to bring devices home at the end of the school day.

**Devices Donations Being Accepted in Kindergarten!**Do you have an old phone/device that is WiFi compatible that you are no longer using? We’d love to adopt it! If you have a device you’d like to permanently donate to our class, please contact me.

**January Math:**count to 100 by 1s and 10s, count forward from any given number, describe objects in the environment, using the names of shapes and describe relative position in terms (such as above, below, beside, in front of, behind, next to), name shapes regardless of orientation or size, identify 2-D (flat) and 3-D (solid) shapes, compare 2-D and 3-D shapes to describe similarities, differences, part, attributes, (vertices, corners, sides, length etc.), build and draw shapes, compose simple shapes to form larger shapes (such as combining two triangles to form a rectangle)

**January Literacy:**
Reading Unit 5:  Partners Help Teach Each Other to Read
We will read texts with confidence and use the strategies to tackle unfamiliar words and understand the text. We will review and practice how to talk with a partner making several back and forth exchanges speaking in complete sentences and using phrasing and wordage that is taught. We will begin to see how authors carefully choose interesting words to describe (verbs) what characters are doing and how knowing this will help with understanding. We will ask questions so we can understand what are reading and help partners. We will use decoding strategies to figure out unknown words. We will look for familiar sight words in books. We will use evidence from the story to support our responses. We will share the main idea of the books and give events/ key details from the story to support our answers. We will learn how authors carefully choose interesting words to describe characters.

**January Writing:**

Opinion Writing – sharing our opinions and supporting our opinions with details. Ie. I like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Procedural Writing - How Tos: Writing explanatory/informative texts that name what they are writing about and supply information, steps involved in How To. For example, How To Build a Snowman (First, Next, Then , Last).
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**Notes for the PTA (please check your virtual Monday Folder for additional details:**

**Hunter Magnet Open House**: will be Wednesday, January 6th. Be sure to spread the news to any prospective parents. We’d love to welcome new families to our Hunter Community.
​**Yearbook Committee—Volunteers & Photographers Needed:**The PTA is very excited to help in coordination of the yearbook this year!  We are actively looking for volunteers who are interested in taking photos, creating of the year book, and/or coordinating the sales and distribution.  Most work can be done from home.  If interested, please contact Serena Flood at renahut@aol.com. Also, if you have any photos from school events from the beginning of the year including the arts performances please email them to hunterptayearbook@gmail.com.  Thank you for your help!
**Book Exchange:**  The Hunter PTA is offering the annual Book Exchange after the winter break. This year the exchange will take place on January 29th, 2016.  Students will visit the exchange with their homerooms and everyone will have the opportunity to select a book to take home.  Please start collecting your gently used age appropriate books to donate for our book exchange.  No board books please. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact, Paromita Basu at pupu\_basu85@yahoo.com