

# Cabin Fever



February 3, 2012

Dear Parents,

February already and the Cabin still has yet to see much snow. I promised the children the first great day of snow and we will spend some time outdoors playing. Hopefully we will get that day.

In language the students will continue to look closely at fiction material and learn about the variety of text features necessary to create a great story. The students will continue to use their inferring strategies to gather meaning and purpose of text that they are reading. They will also continue working on reading strategies that are specific to their own reading goals during the Daily 5. Setting new goals and looking to their report card comments in language to motivate and improve will be a focus when working on written work this month. During their weekly reflection on what they have read the children will focus on how certain reading strategies help them understand the text better. They will be asked to use their critical thinking skills to determine the deeper meaning of the text and how the text relates to themselves and their connections to the world. Reading great literature and reflecting on text using these strategies help to understand the author's message helps children become better writers and thinkers.

I was very proud of the children's focus and determination to complete the speech writing process. This first week of February the children will work on delivery of their speeches and during the second week they will deliver their speech either privately to me or in front of their peers. I will be selecting one or two students to present their speeches in the gym in February. Your child knows the date that they are presenting and it is written in their agenda. You are very welcome to come and watch your child present. We will share our speeches each morning starting at 9:00.

In mathematics we are finishing with Unit 5 Measurement and there will be a Unit Test in the middle of this month. I will mark it in the agenda. The next unit of study will be multiplication and division. There is a parent newsletter link attached to outline how you can help at home with this unit. The greatest way you can help at home is to review the multiplication facts daily. We will have quizzes each Friday on these facts.

The children have made really cool modelling clay creations and we are working on claymation videos. We will share these with you when we are finished. We have a few budding artists and media specialists in our classroom.

There are many events happening this month.

February 6<sup>th</sup> - Primary Skating- children who are not going will stay back with the Grade 4 students.

February 9<sup>th</sup> - Report Card go home. If you would like an interview, please indicate on the report or in the agenda I will contact you and set a time and date. I am very proud of the progress each student has made.

February 13<sup>th</sup> - Speeches begin in our classroom.

February 14<sup>th</sup> - Valentines' Exchange

February 17<sup>th</sup> - Friendship Day and school-wide ABS morning activities.  
- Early Release - no school in the afternoon.

February 23<sup>rd</sup> - Grade 4-6 trip to Medieval Times. Students who are not attending will be working with me and the Grade 3 students this day.

\*\* Don't worry Grade 3 student we will be taking you to the Pioneer School House in the spring. I also want to plan a class trip for the spring.

February 20<sup>th</sup> - Family Day- no school. Enjoy the day together!

Thank you for your support!  
Kara Baranoski

