

December 14, 2018

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## Classroom Wish List:

Box Tops

## Take Home Reading Logs:

Please turn in your yellow take home reading log every Friday. Logs need to be initialed by parents, as well.

# Mrs. Hayes' Classroom Connection

## Here's What's Been Going On!

### Balanced Literacy Program

Our classroom has a balanced literacy program, with several components. Students will be involved, daily, with reading and writing workshop, as well as spelling and word study. Secondly, students will also study grammar. Aside from this, we will be focusing on mastery of our handwriting skills.

Students will be reading books, solely at their independent level, while participating in whole class and small group mini-lessons.

As a class, we have been learning how our classroom library is organized by genres. We have been identifying books of various genres, while noting their characteristics.

We have also been discussing the power of rereading to help us:

### Word Study

Students will participate in a variety of activities throughout the week, such as sorting words to understand phonemic patterns.

Students' words will be based on his/her instructional spelling stage.

sound out unknown words, clarify parts in a story and for enjoyment.

Readers have been practicing "walking in the characters' shoes," taking on the events and challenges their characters face, while using their thinking to make predictions and read with intonation and fluency based on the tone of the story.

Aside from this, we have also been working on improving our reading stamina.

This week we continued our second writing piece; small moment/personal narrative. Students drafted their beginning, middle and end. We have included a lead, ending, strong verbs as well as transition words which makes the piece come to life.

A personal narrative is a story, usually told in first person; regarding an event or experience that one had.

## Special Schedule

Monday – Technology

Art

Tuesday – Music

Friday – Gym

Literacy Center

## Upcoming Events

12/17/18 Pajama Day

12/18/18 Christmas Party

2:00–3:00

12/19/18 Read—a—Thon

Pajama/Movie Day

12/20/18–1/2/19 Winter Break



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## Math

This year Lapeer Community Schools will continue to fully implement Investigations. It is a very structured program, with a hands on learning approach; while solving problems with various approaches.

Students have been reviewing how to represent a number using singles, strips and sheets, as well as coins. Aside from this, students have been using a number line to aide in subtraction and addition.

Homework will be sent home frequently. The homework is a direct reflection of what was taught that day in class. Typically, there are only a few problems for homework.

Our math facts program is up and running! Please help your child practice the flashcards that have been sent home with them. The log needs to be signed and returned to school. Flashcards will be sent home frequently.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Your constant support and dedication is truly appreciated.

## Science

This week students continued learning about the Earth and its surface, specifically learning that the Earth is made up of land and water.

Students have been learning about various landforms including: mountain, hill, valley, plain and plateau.

Aside from this, students have been learning about various bodies of water including: pond, lake, stream, river, ocean and sea.

Students have also been learning about the water cycle and its importance.

## Social Studies

This week students continued learning about communities, specifically common characteristics among them; including buildings, businesses, transportation and natural characteristics.

**A day without laughter...  
is a day wasted.**