



Newsletter, January 31, 2008

Today is the last day of January, a wickedly wintery month. One we don't mind seeing end. Tuesday was a short day for us. We started school on a balmy forty degree morning and left at 1:00 to a frigid seven degrees. Wintery wild winds were howling. Even though we missed the extra school, time off was surprisingly stupendous.

We are still marching through the madness of mad minutes. We are finding that our fantastic facts are improving each dainty day, as we become wonderful wise wizards of mystical math. In addition to basic facts, we have also been working challenging math word problems.

In addition to the activities with the mighty microscope in science this week, we watched a film about how the earth formed. Titan Tiarnan loved the part that showed how the earth was struck by an asteroid (the size of a small planet). This made the earth bigger and made it possible for life to form on our earth. The debris left in space combined to form our mighty moon. Elegant Ella thought the movie was not only informative but interesting as well.

We continue to read the mystical book, The Whale Rider. This week we reread and discussed the section that told the mysterious mythology of the whale rider. We talked about what a myth was and how the artistic author used personification in telling this whimsical tale. We also played a dynamite game of dictionary using vocabulary words from The Whale Rider.

Tomorrow, we plan to go swimming in the afternoon. We need to bring a swimsuit, towel and goggles (if you have them). Please make sure to put these items in a bag clearly labeled with your child's name. If you do not want your child to swim, please make sure to let Pat know. There will be an alternate activity offered. Jason Auer-Sears, Michele and Allison will oversee this activity. Pat will be leaving town Friday afternoon. If you have any questions check with Pat.

Next wonderful week, we are planning a super ski trip. We will go on Thursday, February 7 due to a special deal on this day. We will leave Powerful Pat's house at 7:45 on the dot. Please be there on ticking time, as it is a two and one half hour drive to Chestnut Mt. in Galena, Illinois. The trip will cost \$25.00, which will include the special ski rental, a lesson, a not so luscious lunch and money for gas. Please make sure your child dresses warmly with hat, scarf, warm socks and mittens. We plan to return around 5:00 that evening. If you have any questions, check with Pat. A permission slip is included with this newsletter; please return it with your money on Monday.

Signing off for this week,
Trusty Tiarnan, Eagle Ella and Patrick the Powerful Pistol

Necessary Notes:

If you missed the first round, you have another opportunity to a parent teacher conference. During the month of February, Pat will again be meeting with Parents and their children to go over the wonderful work each child has done this year. Conferences will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 6:15 or Fridays between 10:00 to 2:00. Check with Pat to set up a time. Please take this opportunity to celebrate your child's hard work.

I give _____ permission to go on the ski trip with Pat's Learning Adventure on Thursday, February 7, 2008.

Parent's signature