

# Dragonfly Diary

Ms. Frens, Lincoln 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

## January Birthdays and July ½ Birthdays

Evelyn: 1/2

Jason: 7/12

Austin: 1/10

Beth: 7/26



January 9, 2012

### Dad's Day Off Theme Basket

As we get ready for the theme basket event, please send items to fit the theme, "Dad's Day Off" to school for the next few weeks. From what I understand, the items will be collected in a basket that will be used in a fundraiser for Lincoln Elementary. Our room reps, Sara Vereeke and Cyndi Ceithaml, also suggested that you are welcome to send in cash donations that will be used to fill in more items for the basket. This may be easier, so as to avoid a basket full of the same item—giving more options for a variety of items for Dads. If you choose to send cash donations, please send the donations in an envelope or baggie clearly marked for the "theme basket." Items for the theme basket may include, but not be limited to: golf balls, fishing lures, gift cards for an electronic store (video games, cameras, tablets, etc.) or anything else that comes to mind.

Thanks, as always, for your support!

*Ms. Frens*

**Reading:** Students have been working on **retelling** all year. Please keep students accountable when they read books at home by asking them to tell you the **author's purpose, new learning and connections**.

**Writing:** We will be beginning a focus on **persuasive writing** this week. We have been reading some books that show the power of words, especially, in the civil rights moment as we prepare for Martin Luther King Day.

**Spelling:** We're back on track and will be focusing on **changing the y to i and add es and other suffixes** to make new words.

Giving students a **practice spelling test** on Thursdays is very powerful. **Social**

**Studies:** This week students will be researching the following Michigan Indians: **Hopewell, Ojibwa, Ottawa and Pottawatomi**. **Math:** Please look for **opportunities to estimate totals and differences with students to show them a practical reason to round numbers**.

Students will be taking the mid-year math screener in the computer lab this week to check who may need extra support.

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<http://dragonflydiary.weebly.com/index.html>

**ITBS:** Starting next **Monday, January 16, 2012**, students will be taking the **Iowa Test of Basic Skills**. Please make sure your child is well-rested and has a hearty breakfast to prepare for this test.

▪ **DeGraaf Nature Center:** We plan to go to the DeGraaf Nature Center on **Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.** This is the first time that they are requesting students to cover the **\$3.50 fee**. If this is a concern for your family, please let me know because the goal is for every student to attend. Please send this to school in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name by **Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**. If you are interested in being a parent volunteer, you must already have a completed Bridge volunteer form on file in the office. We can take 4 parents from each 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class. If more than that volunteer, there will be a "lottery" to determine who can come. However, your name will be the first on the list to attend future trips. Volunteers, please complete the form on the back of this newsletter and return it to school by **Friday, January 13, 2012**. **Book Orders:** They will be due on **Friday January 20, 2012**. **Checks:** Payable to **Scholastic**. **Cash:** Exact change. **Online:** @ [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com) with Class Activation Code: **FWV2G** (This time, the orders should come to Lincoln!! ☺)

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

### Monday, 1/9

- Library
- Spelling and Math homework goes home

### Tuesday, 1/10

- Spanish / Music

### Wednesday, 1/11

- PE

### Thursday, 1/12

- Art / Music
- Spelling homework due

### Friday, 1/13

- PE
- Unit 13 Spelling Test
- Retellings due
- DeGraaf Parent Volunteer requests due