

M A R C H 2 0 2 0

*Reeds Ferry*

# *Tigger Times*

## **A Message from the Principals**

Kimberly Yarlott – Principal

Bonnie Painchaud – Assistant Principal

Welcome back to school! We are so excited to see you all at RFS! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable February vacation. It is hard to believe, but we have celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school and are now in the second half of our school year. On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Punxsutawney Phil woke from his slumber and did not see his shadow, predicting an early Spring and hopes for warmer days ahead. Even so, please continue to dress your child accordingly for changing weather conditions, as we never know what Mother Nature has in store each day. Going outside, daily, is our goal and students need to have the proper winter clothing to have fun.

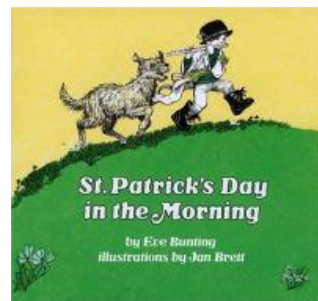
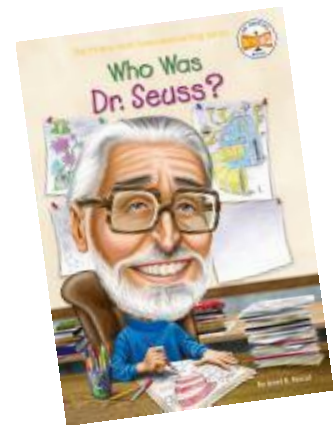
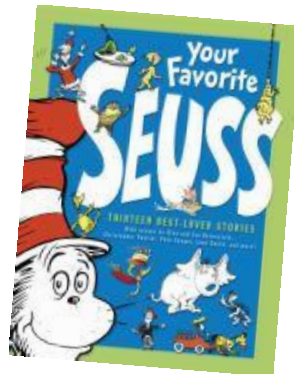
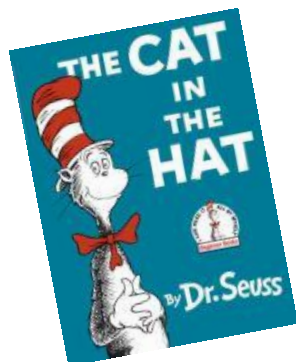
On March 2nd, we recognize Read Across America Day in honor of Dr. Suess' Birthday. This is a day we bring literacy alive for the whole year, encouraging everyone to find the love of reading. At RFS, students engage in independent reading on a daily basis, in addition to reading with their teachers, friends, book buddies, and in some cases with our visiting reading dogs. Studies have found reading 20 minutes each night results in students reading 1,800,000 words a year and reading 851 hours by 6<sup>th</sup> grade (Nagy & Herman, 1987). Wow, that is a lot of reading! Just 20 minutes a night helps students with language development, promotes brain development, aids in understanding our world, strengthens family relationships, and provides endless possibilities for one's future. Help your child commit to reading each and every night. Some helpful hints to foster and encourage a life-long love of reading are reading every day, choosing a variety of genres, listening to a story read to you, keeping a list of your favorite books handy and finding a great place to cuddle up with a good book!

Other news at RFS: our Wellness Committee works throughout the year to foster mental well-being and physical fitness for students and staff alike. This year students stayed afterschool to participate in grade level Winter Wellness events to promote the benefits of physical exercise. They enjoy these winter games, focused on winter sporting events, such as skiing and snowboarding (on carpet squares), bobsledding (on scooters), and culminating in an exciting snowball competition. Thank you, Wellness Committee, for supporting all students in physical fitness.

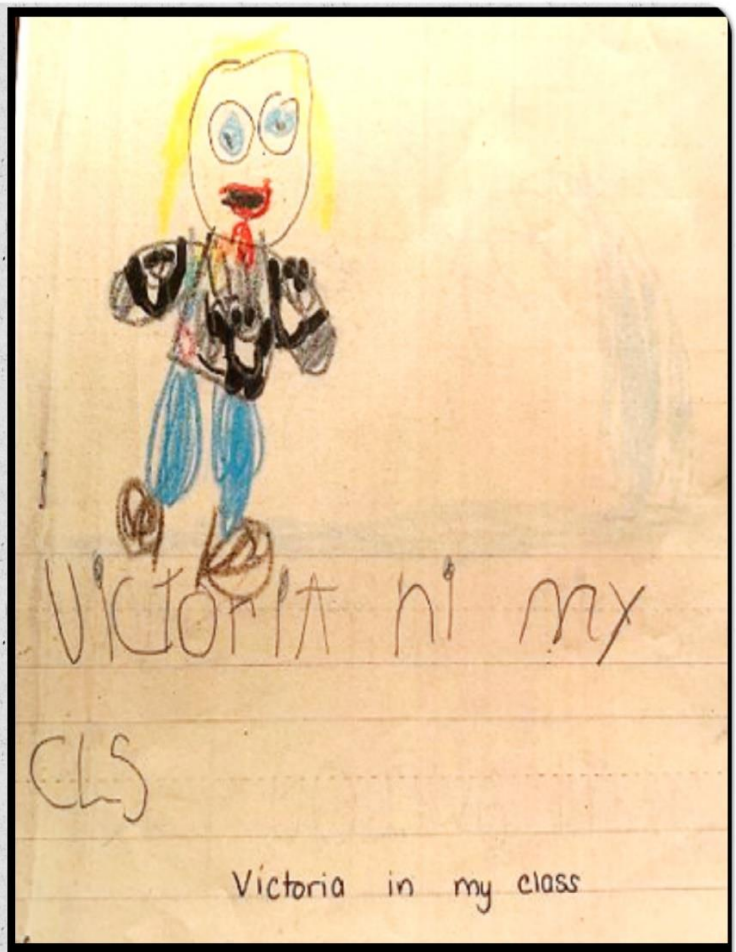
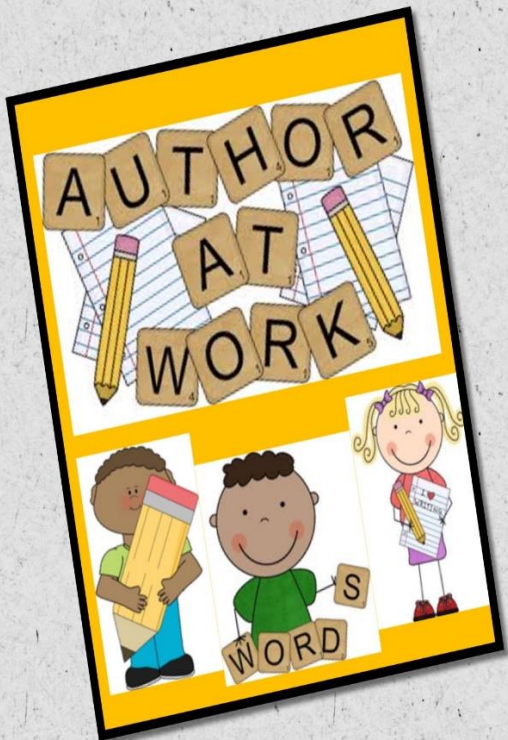
Lastly, later this month, we look forward to welcoming you to Parent-Teacher conferences on March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 7<sup>th</sup> and sharing all the wonderful work your child has been accomplishing at Reeds Ferry School. Information will be coming home soon to sign up for Parent-Teacher conference time.



In the library, we are always searching for ways to promote new books and encourage reading for learning and enjoyment. This month, we will be switching up displays with warmer, spring weather in mind along with St. Patrick's Day and Dr. Seuss's birthday. If you notice that your child comes home with the same book or the same series every week, encourage him/her to try reading something different. It may lead your child to find other genres and authors which will broaden and improve his/her reading skills. Also, I encourage you to visit the library when attending your child's spring parent conference in order to browse the selection. Happy spring, and let's grow the love of reading!







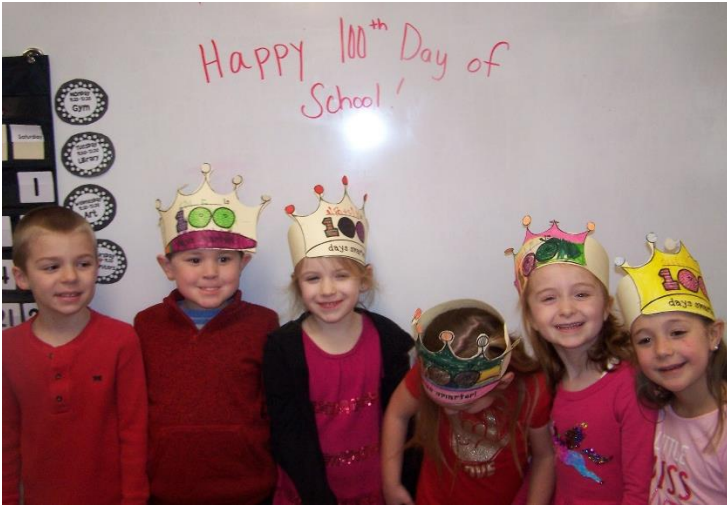
**Kindergarten students are learning to write their ideas on paper! Children use a “word wall” to help with spelling and try writing the sounds they hear in words. Students are also learning to illustrate with a picture that matches their words.**





**Kindergarteners have a writing curriculum, however, the writing process is developmental. Each child will become a proficient writer at their own rate. Scribbles and “inventive spelling” are the first steps in being a writer!**





February 14th brought not only Valentine's Day Parties, but also celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> day of KINDERGARTEN!





# First Grade

First grade had a very exciting February 14<sup>th</sup>! We celebrated our friendships with a class party for Valentine's Day. We also celebrated our 100<sup>th</sup> day of school. We asked the children to gather 100 of something, and to creatively display it in a project. We also invited the children (and teachers) to dress up like they were 100 years old. Check us out!



Room 17



Mrs. Townsend,  
Ms. Lloyd, Mrs. Chiappetta &  
Mrs. White



ROOM 19





**ROOM 15**



**ROOM 20**



**ROOM 18**



**ROOM 20**





Every month, second graders study a different continent. Most recently they studied South America. With help from Mrs. Puzzo, our school Librarian, they learned about the research process and chose a country in South America to personally research. Students imagined they were going to travel to the country and had to research weather and climate, the languages spoken, what celebrations they might participate in, what animals they might see, and important landmarks they might visit.

Once their research was complete, first graders were given a menu of projects. They chose the project that they felt would best demonstrate their learning. The kids really enjoyed the personal choices they got to do during this unit.



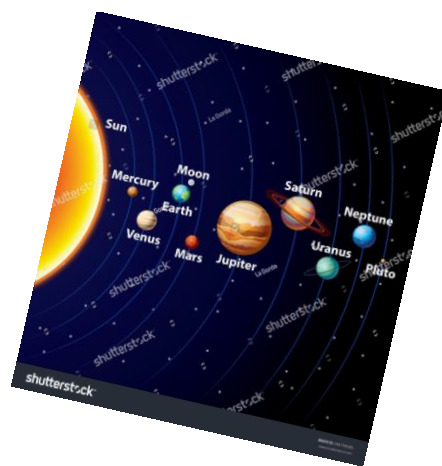


Our Third Graders have been learning about different groups of early settlers to New Hampshire, and how the weather and climate were important factors in why certain groups came and settled here. We are using this background information to learn about biomes. Students will continue to focus on how climate impacts a biome and influences its classification. Our overarching questions continues to be, how does the climate impact living things? Classes have been researching biomes by learning about our own biome (the Deciduous Forest Biome) and we have begun researching another biome of our choice. We are utilizing trade books, informational texts, and computer research. Third Graders are utilizing our research to assist us with writing our Informational Texts, which will be about our chosen biomes.

We have begun Topic 8 in enVisions Math and the Essential Question is, "How can sums and differences be estimated and found mentally?". Students should continue to practice math facts at home for 5 to 10 minutes a night.

In Making Meaning, we have been using wondering/questioning as a comprehension strategy when reading biography texts. Our classes will be shifting focus to using text features to better understand an expository nonfiction book as a comprehension strategy. We continue to utilize the reading community discussions within the classroom to strengthen our reading comprehension.

Practice  
Your  
Math Facts



## 4th Grade



In reading, fourth-grade students have been focusing on reading non-fiction text and summarizing important information. They have also learned the difference between first-hand and second-hand accounts by comparing examples of both.

Our classes are continuing their study of fractions. Unit 9 focused on the adding and subtracting of both fractions and mixed numbers with common denominators.

Students have demonstrated their growth in nonfiction historical writing by moving onto their final drafts of their personal historical books. They have selected a topic from US history to research, write about, and present.

In Science, students have been learning about geology. Every 4th grade class has been using Mystery Science to teach students about the rock cycle and geological processes that have shaped New Hampshire's landscape over time. The students have been using hands-on experiments and interactive videos.

Students are starting to play recorders and are working on earning their recorder belts in music. The Celebration of Song for chorus students is going to be Tuesday March 20th.



## PFA News

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**The PFA (Parent Faculty Association) is a volunteer organization dedicated to the support and enrichment of education at Reeds Ferry Elementary School. Our goal is to provide enrichment to both the faculty and students by establishing the means to offer additional programs, field trips and materials to the school. All faculty, staff and parents of students at RFS are members of the PFA and are always welcome at the general meetings. It is with the continuing support of our members that we are able to offer all of the enrichment programs. It is the unselfish giving of time and effort by our many volunteers that have allowed our children the benefit of these extra resources. Please help us continue our goal by actively supporting the PFA in any way you can.**

We are always looking for volunteers to help make the many programs and activities at Reeds Ferry a success! Check the Volunteer Page on our website often for the latest opportunities or contact our volunteer coordinators with any questions or comments about volunteer opportunities at Reeds Ferry @ Aimee Piccolo [RFvolco@gmail.com](mailto:RFvolco@gmail.com) or Lindsay Murray [RFvolco@gmail.com](mailto:RFvolco@gmail.com)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 GR 1 Winter Wellness	4 GR 1 Field Trip	5	6 Winter Wellness	7
8	9	10 GR 1 Field Trip PFA Meeting	11	12	13 GR 1 Field Trip	14
15	16 Grad. Day 2 <sup>nd</sup> GR field trip	17	18 2 <sup>nd</sup> Gr Field Trip	19 Bedtime Story Hour	20 2 <sup>nd</sup> Gr Field Trip	21
22	23	24 Cavalcade of Bands	25	26 Parent Teacher conf	27	28
29	30	31 Celebration Of Song				



Please remember to turn in your volunteer hours.....