

Mrs. Fitzgerald's
February and March 2021 Newsletter

Dear Families,

We have been learning about Alaska since January. Students are completing their reports on an animal native to Alaska. They have had fun learning about their habitat and how they survive in the harsh conditions.

We are also tracking the weather and learned about the time differences between Nome, Alaska and us here in Maine. We have talked about the seasons, sun, and daylight times. They were very interested when we learned that in early January, the sun didn't rise until around 11:00 AM in Nome!

This week we began listening to Balto. We are learning about the Diphtheria epidemic and how a group of mushers and sled dogs worked together to save the children of Nome, Alaska in 1925. We will then compare Balto and his story to the story of Togo, another lead dog that participated in the life saving race against time. Attached you will see a permission slip for students to watch the movie, Togo. It shows the story of what life on the trail was like for the mushers in 1925.

Next week, we will choose a musher that is competing in the commemorative Iditarod race that is run annually to celebrate and honor the mushers and sled dog teams that carried the lifesaving medicine to Nome in 1925. For the two or three weeks of the race, students will track their musher along the trail and learn about the dogs that make up the teams. The end of the race will wrap up our unit on Alaska.

Monday, March 1st is the 100th day of school! I am so glad to be celebrating this when I know others have not had 100 days together in the classroom. We have successfully made it, with a few hiccups along the way and some extra meeting days, but I can truly tell you this year, the 100th day celebration is extra sweet. To celebrate, I would like each student to bring in a collection of 100 things. Some ideas for this are

- Coins
- Legos

- Jellybeans
- Skittles
- Candy
- Candy Canes
- Lego Figures
- Pens
- Box Tops
- Cereal
- Bouncy Balls
- Elastics
- Gummy Bears

This is just an example of ideas, you can come up with other ideas as well.

Please be sure to sign and return the permission slip on Monday, March 1st.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out.

Mrs. Fitzgerald

I am writing to ask for permission for your student to watch the movie, Togo, as it is rated PG. Please sign and return this by Monday, March 1st. I will have an alternative activity/movie for students that cannot watch the movie.

- My child, _____, has permission to watch Togo.
- My child, _____, does not have permission to watch Togo and needs to have an alternative activity the day of the movie.

Parent Signature

Date

Sincerely,
Mrs. Fitzgerald