

Dear Parents,

We are officially half way through the year, and have started another round of testing in reading and math. We'll be meeting in another week or so to ensure kids are getting the right instruction during WIN.

## What's happening in Class

I'm almost done with testing, so I've started meeting with small reading groups again. We're working on expanding our vocabulary, and reading for understanding, which is tricky with some of the legends we've been using. We've been reviewing adjectives, compound words, subject and predicates. In **Writing**, we're still working on **Informational pieces**. Kids have been focused on adding **introductions**, and using **topic sentences** to lead each paragraph. In **Math**, we're into our unit on **algebraic expressions**. We started this week with order of operations and variables. In **Social Studies**, we've been learning about **Immigration** to the US, and **Migration to Michigan**. Kids have been creating/posting projects to show what we've learned on our site [here](#). Our next unit will be on **economics** and **Government**. We'll finish the year with a couple of **Science** units on **Moon Phases** and **Energy Transfer**.

## Genius Hour Schedule

Based on the availability of presentation space at school, it looks like we'll be showing our stuff on a **Tuesday** afternoon and evening in **May**. We'll be warming up by displaying our work to other classes, and those unable to attend the evening session in the afternoon, followed by an evening session for parents, relatives, and the general public that same day. I'll send a survey soon asking which Tuesday in mid-May works best for everyone.

## Student testing

Kids will again be taking online assessments to monitor growth, and identify area that need further review. Testing will occur in class starting next week and will be done by Jan. 22. I'm also retesting all kids in reading in

preparation for report cards and spring conferences over the next month.

## Pigeon Creek Details

There is a letter coming home today with details about our trip on Feb. 11. We will be doing snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and sledding that day, then returning to school for an abbreviated Valentine's Day celebration. The following day is a half day, and there's no school on Monday, Feb. 15.

## Hockey Fundraiser

Mr. Braymer has organized a benefit hockey game at the Edge Ice Arena on Sat, Feb. 6, at 7:00. He will be playing, I'll be announcing, and our Quincy Ukulele Club will be performing the national anthem. Check out the flyer, or click [here](#) for more details.

## Respect

Our focus at Quincy for the month of January is *Respect*. Students are encouraged to find quotes about respect to post on our board here at school. They can write them out on a piece of paper, include their name, and who originally said it.

## Reminders

- Mon, Jan. 25 – No School – records day
- **Fri, Jan. 29– pajama day spirit day**
- **Thurs, Feb. 11 – Field trip to Pigeon Creek**
- Fri, Feb. 12 – ½ day – noon dismissal
- Mon, Feb. 15 – No School for kids
- **May– Genius Hour Presentations. Afternoon and Evening sessions**

As always, if you'd ever like to discuss anything happening here at school, please feel free to contact me. **Quincy Elementary**  
(616) 748-4700 ex.5731 [pgoers@zps.org](mailto:pgoers@zps.org)

Sincerely,  
Pete Goers