

Dear Parents,

We've completed another round of testing and met yesterday to assign kids to a new WIN group, which will start next week. Don't forget to send in January reading minutes and pizza \$ by Wednesday. Our party will be one week from today!

## What's happening in Class

We'll start new WIN groups in another week or so. In reading, we've been working with legends and exploring **present, past, and progressive verb tenses**, as well as **figurative language**, such as **similes, metaphors, and hyperbole**.

In **Writing**, we're still working on **Informational pieces**. Kids have been focused on adding **partner sentences**, and making sure their writing is well organized. In **Math**, we're into our unit on **problem solving**. We are tackling multistep problems, and will be looking at **patterns** before wrapping up in another week or so. In **Social Studies**, we took an assessment on **Immigration** to the US, and **Migration to Michigan**. Kids have also been learning about **uses of natural resources**. 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

Thanks for responding to the survey. It looks like **Tuesday, May 17** works for just about everyone, so we'll plan on that. I'll send another survey as we get closer asking which time slots work best for your family.

\*I'm looking for a little **help on Friday afternoons**. Many kids are able to work independently, and are closing in on their goals, but there are plenty that could really use a little extra help. Let me know if you're willing to come on a Friday between 2 and 3:30 and we can firm up details and specific dates.

## Theme Basket

Each classroom at Quincy is assembling a theme basket to be raffled off at the Spring Fling as a fundraiser for the PTO. Our theme this year is "staycation". Be on the lookout for items that would

be a good fit, and *please let me know if you are willing to help organize and assemble the basket*. More info coming home in a couple of weeks.

## 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.

## Country projects

This is the first year we're attempting a project like this, so I'm afraid I don't have examples to show you or the kids, but students have begun assembling the information needed to create their **own country**. So far, they're working on the selecting what **geography, natural resources, and climate** they'll have. They're also considering what **push** might make us want to leave our current country, and what **pull** would make us want to choose their country to relocate.

Our next focus will be on **economics**, followed by **government**. No need to send in project materials until we're done with those topics.

## Reminders

- **Thurs, Feb. 11 – Field trip to Pigeon Creek**
- Fri, Feb. 12 – ½ day – noon dismissal
- Mon, Feb. 15 – No School for kids
- Mon, March 7 – parent teacher conferences
- **May 17 – 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