



Elmer Thienes – Mary Hall Elementary School

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Happy Thursday! Punxsutawney Phil promised an early spring – and today's potentially wintery weather event turned out to be nothing. We will continue to notify families of weather impacts on school through texting, local news stations and posting it on our website.

If you have any final Box Tops, we will be putting together a final mailing by the end of the month. Thank you to everyone for their clipping of Box Tops over the years. We will share any further information on the new program as the details are worked out.

At staff meeting this week, we focused our discussion on our expectations for editing and revising skills throughout the grades. As a staff, we evaluated the expectations for each grade level and identified areas that we need to focus extra attention on. Capitalization and spelling were areas that we will continue to focus on at all grade levels, with more complex topics such as appositives and use of commas in our upper grades. With technology providing us automatic corrections on capital letters and punctuation, we are working extra hard with children to make sure they use them when they are writing. We appreciate all of the support at home reminding our little ones to use their best spelling, capitalization, and punctuation skills when they are working on homework.

Wednesday was World Read Aloud Day. Our 5th graders celebrated the day, focusing on the joys of reading aloud or being read aloud to. They had the wonderful opportunity to hear a variety of readers share their favorite books. The World Read Aloud Day website shares that this day is celebrated by millions of people in over 170 countries. Information on World Read Aloud Day can be found at <https://www.litworld.org/worldreadaloudday>.

Our incoming kindergarten families joined us this week for kindergarten registration. We are excited to welcome our new families, as well as the younger siblings of children who are already here. If you know of any families with an incoming kindergartener that we have not reached out to, please share our contact information with them.

At this point, Monday, February 10th will be our 100th day of school. We will be sure to grab a few pictures of how our youngest students celebrate this fun day. Our day will be full of math activities that celebrate the number 100 - from the first day of school when they placed their first stick in a cup, to the tenth day of school when they grouped together 10 straws and talked about the concept of a 10, to Monday, where they will learn about the number 100. Collections of 100 items will be shared/grouped in a variety of ways.

We hope that everyone has a fabulous Friday and a great weekend. A reminder that there is no school on Monday, February 17th and Tuesday, February 18th as we recognize Presidents' Day.

Dan & Kim

Upcoming Events:

2/7 – PAWs Pizza Luncheons

2/10 – 100th Day of School

2/17 & 2/18 – No School – Presidents' Day Break

New Fliers:

[AHM – Playhouse Theater](#)