



# Room 2 News



November 29 - December 2, 2011

## Contact Me

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### Important Reminders

- Book Order due Thursday, December 8
- Christmas party letter went home today in your child's Friday Folder. If you cannot bring the assigned item, please let me know ASAP.
- Report cards went home today in your child's Friday Folder. The signed envelopes are due back to school on Monday.
- December Reading Calendar due Wednesday, January 4
- If your child will be absent December 14, 15, or 16, please let me know ASAP.
- Winter Break - December 17 through January 2 - School resumes January 3
- Continue to encourage your child to read and study the multiplication facts nightly.
- Library books are due every other Wednesday.
- Be sure to check out [www.missrosenthal.com](http://www.missrosenthal.com) for class updates.

## Spelling Words

Pretest 12-5-11

Test 12-9-11

### Unit 13

oh

owe

town

full

complete

cart

march

army

charge

market

mark

alarm

chart

smart

charm

apart

spark

share

beware

rare

stare

compare

parent

spare

scare

**Reading** - We began reading our first novel, Because of Winn Dixie. We discussed the realistic fiction genre, read chapters 1-4, and completed a trifold brochure with questions about the story. Students may reread the chapters at home, but please do not read ahead. Students also read a Scholastic News. My plan is to read one novel as a whole class and then begin a reading workshop format for reading instruction shortly after winter break.

**Writing** - Students practiced grammar by correcting sentences for spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. The next DOL test will be on Friday, December 9. They also have the opportunity to write in their journal during our morning routine. We continued our unit on persuasive essays. Writing partners write a persuasive essay using the thesis, "Sports are fun for kids." Next week each student will write his/her own essay.

**Spelling** - The students and I are exploring a spelling program which helps children notice the ways that they spell. This week students are exploring different strategies and patterns when spelling. My hope is that these lessons will transfer to their own writing. Our unit 13 pretest is on Monday. If your child gets -0 or -1 on the pretest, he/she will get the challenge list and a bonus buck! If your child gets an A on the challenge list test, he/she will receive another bonus buck. The spelling workbook homework will go home on Monday and is due each Thursday.

**Math** - We began unit 4, which is about decimals and their uses. Students learned about decimal place value, how to read decimals, and how to order and compare decimals. Continue to help your child practice addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts every night, since we will be having timed quizzes periodically. Please refer to the Study Link Family Letter for questions regarding the homework. All math homework is due the following day and it checked in class.

**Social Studies** - We continued learning about map skills by reviewing states and capitals that border one another. Mrs. Waffenschmidt traveled to Mount Fuji in Japan.

**Science** - We started our second science unit this week, which is about energy transfer. Students learned about the materials that are attracted to magnets, how magnets attract, how magnets affect one another, and which way is north. Students will keep notes in their science folder. It is always a good idea to review those notes nightly.

**Unit of Inquiry** - We finished our first Unit of Inquiry about regions by reflecting on the unit and sharing our summative assessment region reports. They are hanging in the hall, so come check them out!

### IB Learner Profile & Attitudes

Encourage your child to be enthusiastic, cooperative, a thinker, and a communicator.