



# Mrs. Shafer's Shenanigans

A publication of McMillan Elementary

## Math, Reading, & Writing

In writing workshop this week, we focused on adding specific writing elements to stories that have already been written. Students added: exclamation points (!), power verbs (zoomed), and adverbs (quickly). Students also put expression into their stories by writing some words in all capital letters (I could NOT believe it).

In reading workshop, we continued to practice reading with expression. Sentences with exclamation marks need to be read with more feeling. The same rules apply for words that are written in *italics*. Students also worked on their stamina by trying to read for 20 straight minutes. With the end of the trimester coming up, I have been trying to test everyone's reading levels. At this point in the year, students should be reading at a Level J. Ask your child about his/her reading level.

In math, we spent 3 days working on report card assessments. The other two days were spent measuring items in the classroom using inches and centimeters. Students then took that information and created a line plot of their measurements.

A line plot is a way of displaying information—similar to a bar graph. See below:

In science, we created a model of the ground to show how groundwater is collected. Using a 2-liter bottle with the top cut off, we made layers in this order, starting at the bottom: clay, rocks, gravel, dirt, soil. We then took a Styrofoam cup with holes poked in the bottom and poured water into it to simulate rain. As it rained, students were able to see how the water absorbed into the ground and collected near the bottom at the clay layer. This is where we get water for wells.

### Word Wall Words of the Week

those buy us use

## Reeths-Puffer Schools

Volume 17, Issue 11

November 14, 2014

### Special Dates to Remember:

- ☺ Nov. 25—Music Begins
- ☺ Nov. 26-30—Thanksgiving Break
- ☺ Dec. 3—Conferences 5-8
- ☺ Dec. 4—Conference 1-4 & 5-8
- ☺ Dec. 5 - Children's Theatre Production @ H.S.
- ☺ Dec. 19—X-mas Parties & Last Day
- ☺ May 5—Field Trip to Camp Pentalouan



Remember to return both library books on Wednesday!

Reading logs are due on Fridays.

## Other News

**With colder weather coming, please be sure your child is dressed appropriately for school, including: warm jackets, hats, mittens/gloves, snow pants and boots. Students also need to have a pair of shoes to wear in the classroom so they're not clunking around in wet boots all day. Students may leave a pair of shoes in their locker, if you prefer, or they can bring their shoes each day.**

Please see the note in the Friday folder regarding our trip to the high school. Money can be sent in at any time.

Thank you!