



# February

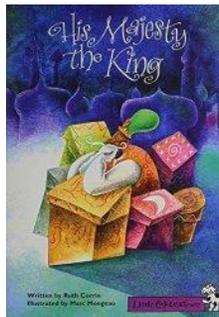
Waite Park  
Community School  
Room 104

February 2017

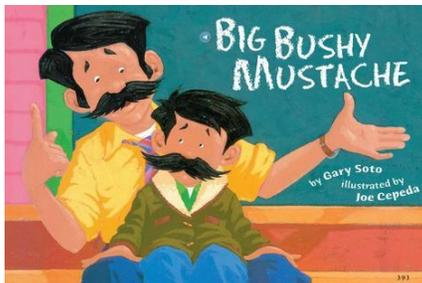
## Ms. Monson's Classroom Newsletter

### Reading

We're studying story grammar. Students recount stories, determine their central message/lesson, describe how characters change throughout a text, and identify characters point of view. We continue to learn how illustrations and words help a reader understand a story.



Two books from this unit are *His Majesty the King* by Ruth Corrin and *Big Bushy Mustache* by Gary Soto. As we recount the stories, we discuss central themes. We also identify resolution in the story.



### Writing

In Writers workshop we read our work closely and gather evidence to make observations and inferences. We also intentionally use new vocabulary to help our writing. By using a variety of words, our messages not only become clearer, they are more interesting to read. As we write, we continue to hone the legibility of our handwriting. We share and discuss writing during our morning meeting routine.

### Math

We are studying place value and have made number scrolls to 1000. We are developing an understanding of sets of ten and sets of one hundred as units. We read, represent, and compare three-digit numbers; understanding that the position of digits in numbers determines what they represent. We are also working on our basic number facts taking a minute math fact test daily.

### Social Studies

Our next unit will be geography. This unit begins by visualizing maps from stories. We make connections to books as we discuss the setting. As the unit progresses, we will locate features and describe locations on a map and globe.

## Science

We are studying "Force and Motion." In this physical science unit we investigate the motion of objects with emphasis on concepts of balance, counterweights, stability, and rotation. We also solve problems through trial and error; construct and observe toys that balance and spin; and observe and compare rolling systems.

## Welcome!

A natural extension to our various social studies units has been Junior Achievement. JA's volunteer-delivered, kindergarten-12th grade programs foster work-readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills, and use experiential learning to inspire students to dream big and reach their potential. Cassie, from the University of St. Thomas and is working with us for six sessions, leading lessons and activities.



St. Thomas!

## Need:

Hardcover Writing Journals



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Specialist Schedule

10:15-11:10

**Monday**

P.E. with Ms. Tollefson Jackson

**Tuesday**

Art with Ms. Hubert

**Wednesday**

Music with Mr. Worrell

**Thursday**

Media with Ms. McEathron

**Friday**

Media with Ms. McEathron



Junior Achievement  
Community Map Activity

**Thank you!**