

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

January Highlights:

Hopefully your child's thank you letter has been received and was appreciated by its recipient. The mail carrier came to us and each child handed his or her letter to a delighted mailman.

Journal writing has become more challenging, with longer entries and more thought provoking entries. I am asking for more details, more complex punctuation, and more standard spelling.

The January Journals are almost ready. They all have completed their Calendar Book, which will be going home soon and the children are just finishing up their latest poem about the four seasons - it should be coming home any day. We are deeply into the Ingalls family's story in the big woods of Wisconsin. Finally, the report cards should be out today. Please sign and return the cards for next semester. Please do speak to me if there are any questions you have about your child's report.

February Highlights:

We have started grammar lessons with the noun, with the article soon to follow. Now here come the events and holidays.

We will have our class Valentine's Day party on **February 14th** (this is not a family party, so you don't have to make arrangements to come). If your child would like to give out valentines during the party, we ask that all children be included. A flyer about valentines (with a roster of names), and a flyer about party treats will be coming.

Our Dragon Parade for the year of the dog is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 23rd at 11:30 am. Once again the Kindergartners will stir the dragon to life. Among the hundreds of red felt hands that form the dragon's scales will be two hands that are your child's. Our class will be the lantern parade following the dragon. The 2nd/3rd year class will be the most excellent noise makers. **WEAR RED!** Make plans to come and watch the noisy fun and to join your child for the Chinese Luncheon after the parade. Get your tickets soon. Reservations are due on **Feb. 20th**.

While all this is going on, I'll try to squeeze in as much as I can about George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. I have some great books about each of them that I would like to share with the class. Last year, Prof. Zimring came to give the elementary classes a lively talk about George Washington and the Revolutionary War. He has agreed to come again to talk about Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.

So who could possibly want more than this? Well, the San Francisco Chinese New Year's parade is **Saturday, Feb. 24th**. The parade starts at **5:15 pm**, and is just spectacular for children. There are the dragons of course, and the wonderful lion dancers, but there are also so many children dancing and singing in the parade.

You can take BART there. The Montgomery Street Station is right at the beginning of the parade. Bring foldable chairs or a blanket and find a spot on the parade route of Market to Grant St.. Getting there early is recommended, but I

assure you the wait is worth it. My family and I go every year that it doesn't rain, and I always wish that all of my students could be there too. They will remember this adventure.

Jo