**January 5, 2017**

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a restful and fun holiday break. As we enter January, and football playoff season (Go Pats!), we can finally start to return to our normal school routines. I just wanted to check-in with a few quick reminders and 2P updates.

I hope everyone can join us tomorrow, Friday January 6th for Drop Everything and Read (DEAR). We will have DEAR from 8 – 8:25 a.m. After DEAR we will be going to library so please make sure to send back any overdue materials. Students are only allowed to have two books checked out a time.

Today, all students will be coming home with new Raz-Kids login information. The school accounts changed. Therefore in order to continue using the site the username was also changed. The new username is *cpaget*. Student’s passwords still remain 2p.

Student progress reports will be posted to the portal in ASPEN on Thursday, January 19th as a PDF. If you are having trouble accessing your ASPEN account please contact Linda in the main office.

This month we will finally start to have consistent, full weeks of school. The only no school day in January will be on Monday, January 16th (MLK Day). I will also be out the week of January 30th – February 3rd for my third week of training at Lesley for the Literacy Collaborative. As always I can be reached via e-mail during this time away if you have any questions or concerns.

2P has a busy month ahead of them! We will be wrapping up our science unit on force and motion. We will then be moving into our next social studies unit. During our next social studies unit we will focus on the country of Ghana. We will learn about its’ geography, people, customs, traditions, and resources. Our reading instruction is focused on increasing student comprehension of texts read independently. All reading groups are structured around individual student needs. Students continue to participate in workboard activities during the reading block too. These activities include: poetry notebooks, sketchbooks, word work, science journaling, and writing prompts. 2P also just finished their unit of study on graphing during math. We are currently working on telling time to the nearest five minutes and minute. Later this month we will start to focus on addition and subtraction with regrouping and ungrouping (i.e. borrowing and carrying). Lastly, our writing workshop time will continue to focus on writing narratives. Eventually, we will begin working on persuasive writing pieces. Everyone in 2P will be very busy in the next few weeks leading up to February vacation in order to accomplish all of our learning goals!

I am looking forward to seeing everyone tomorrow for DEAR!

Thanks,

Caitlin