

# Mrs. Laurie's January Newsletter



## Important Dates

1/15 Early Release students released at 2:05

1/31 Link Up performance at Kenai High School

## This month...

Students have been preparing for Link Up over the last couple months. A local retired music teacher, Sue Biggs, has been coming in regularly to work with the class on their pieces. All of their work is culminating in a performance with the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra on Friday, January 31st. Students need to arrive at Kenai High School for rehearsal at 5:30pm. The concert begins at 7pm and is free for families and the public. This is a great opportunity for students, and I encourage you all to attend. If you are unable to attend, but your student would like to participate please let me know, and I will try to help facilitate a ride. Likewise, if you have room to take another student if needed please let me know.

We are also beginning to work on the district forensics competition. Forensics is a district wide public speaking competition. There are nine different categories that students can choose from when looking for their pieces: humorous poetry - single, non-humorous poetry - single, humorous prose - single, non-humorous prose - single, storytelling, prose or poetry - multiple, interpretive reading - single, and interpretive reading - multiple. The only categories that don't need to be memorized are the interpretive readings. Students need to be practicing their pieces every day to be prepared for our class competition. They will have time to practice in class each day, but for those that are memorizing their pieces, this likely won't be enough time. Students will each have a copy of their piece that can be left at home, as well as one that is left at school, so they always have the ability to practice!

## Younger Buddies

Our class is buddies with Mrs. Montgomery's kindergarten and first grade students. Our classes pair up every Friday. Students assist their younger buddies with a variety of activities: reading, helping them complete assignments, art projects, and STEM activities. Last week students helped their buddies to create goals for the new year.

## What We're Learning:

<p><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Graders</b></p> <p><b>Social Studies:</b> Our Environment</p> <p><b>Health:</b> Let's Eat</p> <p><b>Language Arts:</b> Adjectives, adjectives that compare, using the verb be and helping verbs</p>	<p><b>4<sup>th</sup> Graders</b></p> <p><b>Social Studies:</b> The Northeast Region of the United States</p> <p><b>Health:</b> The Digestive System</p> <p><b>Language Arts:</b> Adjectives, adverbs, prepositions and prepositional phrases</p>
<p><b>All Students</b></p> <p><b>Writing:</b> Argument/Opinion</p> <p><b>Science:</b> Power of Flowers - plant life cycle and heredity continued</p> <p><b>Forensics:</b> Student selected pieces</p>	