Dear Schmidt Families,

The school year is passing by so quickly. We are already approaching the mid-point of the third grading period! It is hard to believe that the 100th day of school has come & gone and as of February 1st we only have 76 ½ days left to the last day of school! There is so much to accomplish in the next few months.

**Second Semester School Goals**

**Attendance:**

One priority the school has set is centered on improving student daily attendance. All students need to be in their classroom by the tardy bell at 7:40am. We have a warning bell at 7:35am. Here is how you can help:

- Please plan to arrive at school before 7:35am. This allows your child to have enough time to get breakfast and get to class on time.
- Tardy students should not have the expectation that they will have 20 minutes to eat breakfast. Instruction starts at 7:40am, so students need to be prepared to get right to work.
- If your child is sick, then they should stay home. Always call the attendance line at 813-651-2110 ext. 1. Leave the required information on the message board.
- Repeated and/or regular Early Sign-outs impact your child’s learning. We teach from the morning bell to the dismissal bell. By leaving early, your child misses out on that instruction that is not retaught the next day.

At school we have attendance incentive programs to reward students for being at school & on time each day. We hope your child can be recognized.

**Increasing Reading & Math Proficiency:**

Our students showed significant growth on the State tests in Reading & Math from the beginning of the year to the middle of the year. We want that growth to continue.

iReady home usage is a great way to help your child in Reading and Math. All students in kindergarten to Grade 5 should complete 45 minutes each week in Reading and also in Math. Students have access to iReady at home through the Clever portal. Talk to your child about iReady and log-in with your child so that he/she can show you the work he/she is completing. It is not enough to complete 45 minutes. Students need to complete the lessons with mastery. That is the only way to show learning gains.

Reading with your child at home is so important. Reading for 20 minutes each day makes a huge impact on your child’s vocabulary acquisition and helps to increase knowledge in a wide range of topics. Students can read books, magazines, and use myON which can be accessed through the Clever portal.

**Increasing Parent Collaboration:**

One of the best ways to know what is happening at school is to maintain ongoing communication with your child’s teacher. Teachers may use the planner or an app like Remind or Class Dojo to help keep parents informed. Our second semester Conference Night is Thursday, February 15 from 3pm to 8pm. Teachers will be sending home conference request forms to parents they need to touch base with. Parents can also read out to the teacher to request a conference. If you want a conference, please do not delay in sending the teacher a note.

Thank you for your support,

Ms. Lippek
Principal

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**Strive to arrive by 7:35**
Hello Schmidt Sailors,

February is one of the busiest months in the Media Center. We have the end of our SLAM Showcase, Valentine’s displays, Black History Month activities, and more!

We begin honoring Black History Month February 1, 2024. I have created a myON project for each student to go along with the Black History Month myON Read-In Challenge. Every student that completes the project will earn a prize from me in the Media Center and have an opportunity to win prizes from myON for the top minutes read during the month of February. I will also give prizes to our top readers for each grade level. Our library is full of books honoring Black History Month. They will be displayed on top of the library shelves. We will do trivia on the morning show for more opportunities for students to earn prizes.

Our Valentine’s theme is “Fall in Love with Reading.” We have Valentine’s books pulled for students to read and enjoy.

We will also have a display honoring President’s Day. We will have books from past president and our current president, Joe Biden.

Happy Reading, Sailors!

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