





# February 2015



Mrs. Nielsen's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade BOBCATS  Songo Locks Elementary School  2014 - 2015

## Scantron Testing

- The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in MSAD 61 take a test called the Scantron three times per year. The Bobcats will be taking our 2<sup>nd</sup> installment this week. Students will be tested on both reading and math skills. This information is intended to help inform teachers about students who may benefit from additional supports as well as those who may enjoy some new challenges. This test is designed to track overall progress of individual students. Each test usually takes most students about 45 minutes to complete. This test also serves as a practice test as we move towards our Smarter Balanced Testing in March as both tests are taken on-line. You can support your child by providing plenty of sleep, healthy breakfasts and extra exercise!

## Upcoming Calendar

### February

<b>February 2</b>	Early Release at Noon
<b>February 9</b>	Early Release at Noon
<b>February 13</b>	Valentine's Party 2:15
<b>February 16-20</b>	February Vacation
<b>February 23</b>	Early Release at Noon

*\*Please note that Early Release days begin on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. We will have ER days every Monday through March 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

## January Recap



During the month of January we completed Literacy Unit 8 and began Unit 15 called Precious Resources. These units tied into the Science standards the students have been working on with Mr. Jacques. Mr. Jacques has been focusing his science lessons on Weather and Climate using a new program.

During our writing and social studies time the students have been completing a study of the novel, *Lost on a Mountain in Maine* by Donn Fendler. The students have been working on writing Constructed Responses to questions about the book. The questions are open ended and require students to Restate, Answer, Cite Details from the book that support their answer and Explain their thinking in their own words. This new writing skill will be invaluable to students as they move forward in their learning... and the story is high-interest for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade!

## DAILY WINTER CLOTHING: *Yep, Still!*

Please send your child each day with all of the outdoor gear they need to enjoy daily recess! Also, please LABEL EVERYTHING!



Warm Jacket  
Snow Pants  
Boots *AND* Indoor Shoes!  
Hat & Mittens



## Curriculum

### *So What's Up Next?*

We will be starting on our next Social Studies unit after vacation. Students will complete a research project and create their own non-fictional pamphlet about the Great State of Maine. We will also be working with Mr. Jacques on a design challenge!