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# The Findley Focus

Findley Elementary School's Monthly Newsletter

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The secret to living the life of your DREAMS is to start living the life of your DREAMS today, in every little way you possibly can. —Mike Dooley

Mark your calendars...

- January 21st– MLK Day —NO SCHOOL



## FINDLEY'S NEW SMART BOARDS

In December, Findley installed new SMART Boards in all of the classrooms!

These boards will be valuable tools for teachers and students in all subject areas. SMART Boards are interactive white boards, which means teachers and students can write on them with their own fingers or with special SMART pens. They can also use their hands to move and erase objects on the screen. Classroom teachers will soon be using these SMART Boards to engage students in literacy activities designed by our new Journeys reading program. The SMART Boards will provide interesting, hands-on learning for all of our Findley stu-



After two very successful performances, Drama Club will continue to meet on Thursdays after school.

**BRAVO!**

## Words About Winter Because of the Snow...

As many of you know, we had two snow days before winter break on December 18 and 19. Because of this, students will be attending school on January 21, Martin Luther King Day, and February 18, Presidents' Day. The District had scheduled these two days in as snow make-up days at the beginning of the year. We are thankful for this, due to our renovation starting immediately after the last student day. We can't afford to delay Findley's construction date. Please contact Mrs. Owen with any questions about the two snow make-up days.

### Excused and Unexcused Absences: How to know the difference

Absences are marked EXCUSED if it is the result of:

1. Illness
2. Medically documented chronic or extended illness, hospitalization, doctor's care, nurse's approval
3. Medical or dental care
4. Death or serious illness in the immediate family or household
5. Suspension from school
6. Religious holidays requiring absence from school
7. Court appearances or other legal proceedings beyond the control of the family
8. Classes missed because of attendance at a school-sponsored trip or activity

Absences are marked UNEXCUSED if:

1. The student's absence from school or class does not meet one of the above criteria
2. The parent/guardian does not notify the school regarding a student's absence within 24 hours of the date of absence (unless there is a hardship demonstrated that prevents reporting)

As always, communication is KEY! Please feel free to request a copy of the attendance policy and we will send one home with your student. Also, please let us know if we can assist you in any way to eliminate barriers to attendance and we will do our best to problem solve with you!

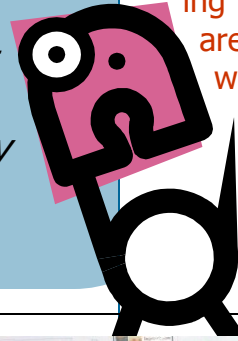
### Dress Warm for Recess

Please remember to send your child with a hat, mittens, heavy coat, and if possible snow pants. We'll be going outside for recess as long as the temperature and wind chill remain at 18 degrees or above. It's so important for our students to get outside, exercise, and breathe in the fresh air, but we also want them to have enough clothing to make the time enjoyable. If you need assistance with any of the winter items listed, please let Mrs. Owen know and we will help out in anyway possible.



**COULD YOU WIN A NITENDO DS? Show up and find out!**

*Findley students are excited about the opportunity to win a Nintendo DS. Students who have perfect attendance in the month of January will enter a drawing for the DS, and one lucky winner will take home the prize. Parents are encouraged to have their children to school on time everyday AND to ensure they remain in school for the entire day to help encourage A + Attendance. Ask your students about the many incentives (beyond the proven academic benefits) for arriving at school on time every day and remaining for the entire day!*



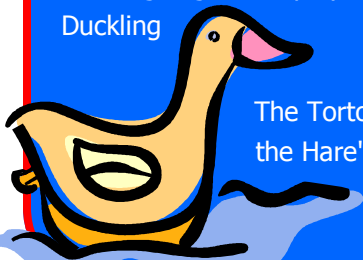
Keeping Findley the safest environment possible for our students, families, and staff is a top priority. Please help us do this by always checking into the office, wearing a visitor's badge when entering into the classroom areas, and signing out when you leave the building. Thank you for keeping our students and staff at Findley safe!

### What's Going on in Second Grade?

- December ended with a homework pizza party for all students who missed one or less homework. The good news is all students will have the chance to attend the May homework pizza party since we start over tracking in January. So please continue to make sure your child is completing homework nightly and returning it every Friday.
- New math AOL (additional learning opportunities) start Monday January 7th from 3:30-4:00. They will be held on Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays for the following 4 weeks.
- Monday January 14th starts the week of district testing. Please have your children get a good nights rest and continue to read and practice math facts at home.

Looking ahead into February we will be going to the play "The Ugly Duckling and

The Tortoise and the Hare" at the Civic Center.



### K.O.O. L. Kids at Findley

We have a group of fifth grade students that were selected to be student leaders for Findley Elementary. The



name of this group is called the K.O.O.L. (Kids Offering Outstanding Leadership). They were selected because of their ability to be role models for others in the building. Currently, they are tutoring students in other classrooms and are working on producing a video that will help new students and their families get acquainted with Findley and what we have to offer here. Later on this school year, they will help plan and coordinate a monthly reward celebration for students who are demonstrating positive behaviors. They are to be commended for their leadership efforts and supporting students and staff at Findley Elementary .



The Belin String Quartet visited Findley on January 14th. The performance was especially memorable for 3rd grader Sydney Israel, who was invited to participate!

**We are a PBIS school!**

**Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports**

**RESPECT Self**

**RESPECT Others**

**RESPECT Property**

**RESPECT Learning**