



# January 2018

**First Grade:** I hope you enjoyed the break with your families. First grade is ready for the New Year and the new season. We will be exploring the winter season, penguins, owls, and polar animals. Martin Luther King Jr. will be an important person in history about whom we will be reading & writing. Our math focus for January will be place value. We will be teaching the students to count, group, and make tens and ones. We will also focus on the numbers from 100-120.

Check with your child to see if they need new crayons glue sticks, or other supplies we use daily.

Happy New Year!!!

**Kindergarten:** Happy New Year and welcome back! We are excited to pick up where we left off and continue to challenge ourselves with reading, writing and math. Our kindergarten students will be diving into reading and writing independently this semester. Mastering letters, sounds, and popcorn words will make this an easy transition, so continue to work on these skills. Students will also be introduced to addition this month. We will be comparing, adding and grouping numbers.

Our 100<sup>th</sup> day of school is coming up soon. Please watch for a letter to come home from your teacher with 100<sup>th</sup> day information. Please continue to practice tying shoes and zipping and buttoning coats. Remember, this time of the year, the weather changes quickly, so make sure the kids are bundled up with coats, gloves and hats. If warm enough and dry we will be playing outside.

**Mrs. Curvey:** Happy New Year! It's hard to believe it is 2018 already. During the month of January, our Mindset Mantra is, "Feedback is a gift – accept it." We will be learning how to recognize feedback and use it to help us grow. We will also learn how to give feedback to one another to show we like what we see or here's something you can work on. I've been in and out of classrooms where teachers are actively using the word "feedback" with their students and teaching them how to give it and receive it.

## Recess

During the Month of January, we will be going outside as often as possible. If the wind chill is above 25 degrees, we will go out. However, if it is not above 25 degrees, we will have inside recess. Inside recess can look several ways. It may be a teacher reading a book to a group of students, students using manipulatives, teachers taking students back to the classroom to "play" in there, or centers in different areas to provide students a choice of activity.

## Yearbook

If you have taken photos at any events at school and would be willing to share those for the yearbook, you are welcome to send them to me at [jcurvey@altonschools.org](mailto:jcurvey@altonschools.org) and I will send them to our yearbook committee. I know they will want to use as many as possible.