

CALENDAR

March is Women's History Month

- 3/1 PACE Parent Coffee Meetup and Meeting
8:15 a.m. (American Room)
- 3/1 Founders' Week All-School-Meeting
Founders' Day Award Announcement
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 3/7 No Enrichment Classes
Pizza Lunch
- 3/7 Science Fair (All families encouraged to attend!)
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- 3/8 No School: Professional Development Day
- 3/15 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
- 3/20 Pizza Lunch
- 3/21-22 No School: Parent Teacher Conferences
- 3/25 Spring Enrichment Begins
- 3/29 All-School Meeting
8:45 a.m. (American Room)
Dogwood presents Rainforest Songs/Poem

Our Classroom

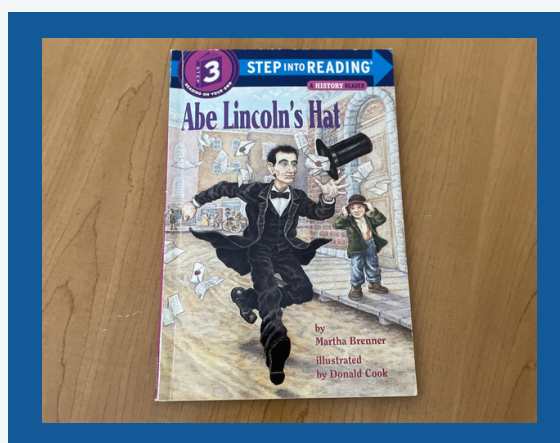
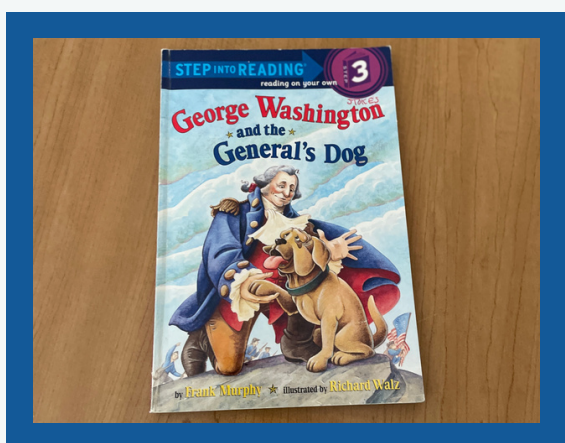
Many of the students are enjoying playing the verb game and the sorting of nouns game.



Curriculum Highlights

Cultural

February brought a little more snow but very frigid temperatures. Punxsutawney Phil was right and we will be having a warming trend this week. However, Spring will not be arriving until mid March. The class enjoyed learning about the legend of the groundhog, doing a sequencing art activity showing how the groundhog peeks out of his hole to check the weather conditions and singing 'Oh Little Groundhog'. The class had fun listening to these two stories about our 1st and 16th presidents: *Abe Lincoln's Hat* by Martha Brenner and *George Washington and the General's Dog*. You might want to ask your child what Abe put in his black stove top hat and how General Washington was able to stop the fight after Alexander Hamilton wrote a note to General Howe saying they wanted to return his dog that had wandered into their camp. Both sides raised white flags and George's soldiers walked General Howe's dog safely across the Battlefield. It was a great act of kindness. Some of the children constructed pictures by connecting dot to dot numerals or letters to complete images of Washington and Lincoln.



The Red Maple children loved doing the Lion dance in the halls and Children's House classrooms. Everyone had the opportunity to be the lion in the classroom. Then a pair was chosen to lead the class in dancing while the others played instruments or wore masks.



Science

This month in science the children are learning about the Antarctic and the 17 different kinds of penguins. They found it interesting that RockHopper penguins build a nest out of rock to lay their eggs in. Rock nests for the eggs does not seem to be a comfortable match; however it does work for them. They were surprised to see the differences in the penguins' heights and markings. Penguins are not just black and white and they range in size from just over 1 foot tall up to 4 feet tall. For fun we charted 17 penguin heights and then measured each of the children so they could see where they were in comparison. It was eye opening for them to see.



Black History Month- Learning about diversity



An idea was born when each class was asked to make something special as a group for our school auction. I recalled this project from years ago and decided that our class would have fun making 'worry dolls'. I read Bellen Woodard's book *More than Peach* to the class. Each child was asked to choose the marker tone that they felt represented their skin-color. Mrs. Connelly and I were impressed by the conversations going on as they made their choice. They were excited to each make a clothespin yarn wrapped person. After I gathered the materials, Mrs. Meade offered her expertise and helping hand to assist the children with their creations. The dolls were mounted onto a mirror frame representing Red Maple as "We are One." This became our contribution to the school auction.

Looking Ahead...

March Topics

- Continue magnetism
- Vernal equinox (beginning of spring)
- Sink and float
- St. Patrick's Day
- Money

