

Happy New Year!

What an AWESOME first week back! Everybody was ready to pick right back up where we left off and splash into emperor penguins! We continued working on our igloo projects and had to put our architect skills to the test. Foundations and roofs galore! In order to create evenly stacked columns, we were constantly trying to figure out how many sugar cubes were in the other rows and columns. These were sent home today!

We are finishing up Esio Trot early next week and moving on to Mr. Popper's Penguins. I asked the class earlier this week, who carries the penguin egg? The majority of them said the mom, some said a box or pack, and one said an ornithologist! After sharing our answers and having a little discussion, we watched The March of The Penguins. It is the father that actually carries the egg while the mother goes on the hunt for food. To better understand just how difficult it can be for a penguin to waddle around and simultaneously stay warm while carrying an egg on their feet, we used our open gym time today to have some penguin races! We used a ball about the size and shape of a penguin egg and had to waddle around to the finish line, but we had to be super careful not to drop our eggs! Next week, we will be making our own.

The class is having a super great time learning how to play some of our new math games, thank you to all of you! This week, we decided to focus on one game only and really understanding exactly how to play Qwixx Deluxe. This is an AWESOME game! It was honored for excellence by Mensa and geared towards children 8+, but your kids have really taken an interest in it. They must strategize, problem solve, add, foreshadow, etc. in order to mark their spot. Every decision is crucial!! I highly recommend this game to everyone.

Reminders:

- Book orders were sent home today. If you would like to place an order, please do so by next Friday, January 19. The link is <https://clubs.scholastic.com/on/demandware.store/Sites-rco-us-Site> and our class code is MRX4Z.
- **TOMORROW IS BANK DEPOSIT DAY!**
- Please remember to send your child with a pair of gym shoes to change into out of their boots everyday. Feel free to tell your child to leave their gym shoes at school.\

*Riddle from morning challenge on Wednesday---What weighs more: a pound of feathers or a pound of bricks? Neither, they both weigh a pound!

Have a fantastic weekend and see you all Tuesday!

-Ms. Anna