

Good evening Room 1 Parents and Happy Friday!

### Highlights:

We had so much fun this week learning about our fourth simple machine: the wedge! When I asked the class what they thought a wedge was, I got some awesome responses. "I think it's like a stopper." "Maybe something that goes between something." "I think it's something that goes under the road and lifts it." How cool that a wedge is basically two inclined planes? After researching as a class, we broke off into partners and went on a hunt! A scavenger hunt throughout the school that is, to see how many different wedges, inclined planes, levers, and wheels and axles we could find. We found hammers, door knobs, bicycle wheels, gears, scissors, nails, and more!

During math games this week, a couple of our friends had a fantastic idea. They wanted to make their games a little more exciting, adding new rules, new obstacles, and new questions. For example, rather than connecting four in Connect4, they changed the game and made it so they had to connect either six or seven to win. I played a couple of rounds myself and it was not so easy! During WAR, we had already started adding the value of the cards, but now they decided to also begin subtracting.

This year's theme for the Des Plaines Tree Lighting Ceremony was "Season of Magic" and the kids came up with a great idea to use some clay, pipe cleaners, and good old fashioned glitter to create beautiful and magical ornaments! They worked really hard to bring their visions to life and even though we had some unplanned mishaps (a few broke:/), they took it as a challenge and stayed positive! They decided to try again and make some improvements:)

We're almost done reading [The Bicycle Mystery](#) and we're getting closer to finding out who Shadow belongs to. Ask your child if they have any predictions and to catch you up on what's happened this week!

### Reminders:

- Please send a picture of your child on Monday! Any picture will do:) It could be from when they were a newborn to last week.
- Final book orders were sent home for 2018! If you would like to order any books as gifts for the holidays, please place your orders by this MONDAY, DECEMBER 10! Don't forget to use the coupon code online when placing your \$25+ order for a free book! A few suggestions are:
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  - 1. Grinch Mad Libs
  - 2. National Geographic Kids: Real Dragons
  - 3. Level 3 Step Into Reading: Ralph Breaks the Internet
  - 4. Snowy Savings Reader Pack (mix of level 1 and level 2 reading levels)
  - 5. Who Would Win? Figurine Box Set

6. Pete the Cat Super Listening Library Set
  7. The Day the Crayons Came Home
  8. Pigeon 6-pack
  9. Black Lagoon Adventures Collection
  10. Junie B. Jones Library
  11. Magic School Bus Rides Again 5-pack
- We have TWO awesome service projects happening right now! Ms. Bridget's class is collecting books for Bernie's Book Box. Their goal is to collect 500 books by December 19 and Ms. Bia's class is having a toy drive for Toys for Tots with a goal of collecting 200 toys by December 18! Books may be new or GENTLY used and toys must be new.
  - We are leaving PROMPTLY AT 8:50 A.M. on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12 for our rehearsal. PLEASE BE ON TIME!!!!

<http://www.screenfree.org/research-and-fact-sheets/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/27/opinion/sunday/science-rewards-behavior.html>

I hope you all have a fabulous weekend and stay warm!

-Ms. Anna