



## MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

From the English Language Arts Classroom

Mrs. Betty Worrell



to the steady beat of reaching for SUCCESS!

Reflecting back over our year thus far we have a lot to celebrate. Many students have stepped up their pace and are diligently working at learning, others need to recognize how little time is left as we are starting out on our final leg of this year's journey. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents who are taking time from your busy schedules to call, email, and come in for conferences.

I sent home our **third completed Benchmark scores** by your child for you to compare with the other two. Looking at the scores, it is evident some students are on target with learning; others are somewhat behind and must work really hard to catch up. Getting homework turned in continues to be a problem for many students. **There is a definite correlation between homework, student behavior, and student learning.** All areas must come together for your child to learn at a high level. A gentle reminder as to the importance of communication between parents, students, and myself as a teacher – let's keep an open line. **Please feel free to contact me with any situations – those are easy to handle. Once problems occur it takes a much longer time to repair the damage.**

### Gentle Reminders

- If you are having trouble logging on to **view your child's grades** please let me know and we'll work on the problem together. Just in case, for a second time, I will be sending home your child's code and instructions for logging on for viewing. **At any point you have concerns or questions please contact me.**
- **Data Sheets:** Please check your child's data sheets in Reading and English Arts. Each time we complete a test in either area students record their scores. Students are proud of their success, and when decline they are working hard to see them improve. They have a visual tool for comparing weekly progress.
- **Homework is given nightly with the exception of week-ends.** As often as possible I like to leave this as family time.

- **Tutoring in Reading is offered free of charge on Tuesday and Thursday immediately after school: 3:20 – 4:15.** I only ask that you plan with me for dates and arrive on time to pick up your child. We cannot afford to wait until the last minute and expect those students who need help to catch up. Please work with me to help your child succeed at the highest possible level.
- **FANTASTIC NEWS!**
- **Many students wrote poems to enter into the Columbus County Poetry Contest. I am proud of those who worked hard and sent in poems for judging. Good luck – but you are all my winners!**

## **Important Dates:**

- **February 23 – 26: Third Reading Benchmark testing for grades 4 and 5**
- **March 1st, 2016: first day of Guideway's Book Fair**
- **March 7<sup>th</sup> - Book Fair ends**
- **March 12<sup>th</sup> – Time Change (SPRING FORWARD an hour)**
- **March 25th, 2016: Good Friday NO SCHOOL (students of staff)**
- **March 28<sup>th</sup> - April 1<sup>st</sup>: No school students**
- **-April 1<sup>st</sup> (Friday – teacher workday)**
- **April 4<sup>th</sup>: School resumes for students**
- **April 5<sup>th</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> nine weeks ends**
- **April 5<sup>th</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students trip: Jazz Concert (Whiteville, NC)**

