

# TUCUZI TIMES

## Classroom News

As we dive deeper into our State Fair Research projects, Tucuzi students have been learning the importance of and practicing skills such as managing their time, sustaining appropriate engagement, setting goals, meeting deadlines, maintaining flexibility, engaging in a range of collaborative discussions, and self-initiating support when needed. Students will continue applying these skills as they finalize their research and begin drafting their paragraphs, taking each fully though the writing process. These skills are not just valuable within the confines of our classroom, but are essential for navigating the relationship and life complexities outside of the classroom as well! If you get a chance, stop by the Voyager hallway routinely now through March to see our project progress documented on our walls outside of our classroom!

## Outdoor Gear

As the weather is getting colder, students should be bringing a coat, hat, boots, snow pants, and gloves to school every day for recess and carpool. Teachers check for the wind-chill and radar daily before recess and we will go outside unless the windchill is below zero. To ensure students are adequately prepared, girls that wear skirts can bring in pants to put on underneath for recess and carpool and students can even leave their gear in their locker. It is important for students to be prepared for the daily changes in Michigan's weather. **Please label all of their gear.** Please ensure your child knows that they must wear a coat outside as weather is colder.

## Important Dates

**January 9:** CSA Spirit Wear Day, CSA Pep Rally Assembly

**January 12:** CSA District Parent Council Meeting, 6PM, CSAMS

January 19: MLK JR. Day

**January 22:** Family Fitness Night

**January 23:** Spirit Wear Day (Theme TBD)

**January 30:** Parent Council's Family Movie Night



# Soaring into Learning

**Writing:** Students will begin studying various techniques for expository writing as they begin collecting information for and drafting their State Research Projects!

**Reading:** Our readers will continue diving into non-fiction texts by analyzing how authors use various text features to inform their readers. We will be focusing on various comprehension strategies, including summarizing and paraphrasing, as we continue to research information on our states!

**Social Studies:** We will finish our unit on Economics with a culminating activity where students will analyze various store advertisements for the economic concepts we have discussed. We will also begin a Science unit on Life Cycles and Traits!

**Math:** In math, students will be applying division strategies and solving word problems involving the perimeter and area of a polygon. Developing ma

**Reminders:** IXL and Reflex are great option for students to practice math at home!



Sharing Personal Narratives



State Fair Research!

As we roll into the new year, it is important to take the time to set new goals. Tucuzi students will be taking responsible risks and reflecting on what they wish to accomplish in the remainder of the school year.



Snow Creations

Class Games!

# Character Corner

It's that time of year when we reflect upon ourselves to determine what goals, mindsets, and actions we want to adopt moving into the New Year. While guiding children through this process, we're mindful that this intentionality does not come naturally! Throughout the month of January and beyond, we will be heavily focusing on setting and reflecting upon S.M.A.R.T. goals. Building the habit of self-reflection while simultaneously fostering a growth mindset will nurture your child's responsibility, work ethic, and self-respect, all Smart Character Traits that we seek to develop within our learning family!

# Developmental

We're always guiding learners through the process of setting and reflecting upon goals for themselves through a series of self-reflective exercises designed to get them thinking about their thinking (AKA Metacognition!). For many learners at this developmental level, setting goals and reflecting upon progress is quite challenging as their brains are still developing in some significant ways. Our hope is to dig deeper into these processes to help strengthen these pathways! As students continue formulating goals, in and outside of the classroom, we can partner together to continue encouraging them to communicate their hopes and ideas at home for both support and accountability. If they forget to mention it, we encourage you to ask (or perhaps pull it out of them, if needed !) More information on metacognition and how you can support it at home can also be found [HERE!](#)

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