**Mrs. Slocum’s Room**

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**February 13, 2012**

**Aloha News**

**Writing Workshop**

**Writing Workshop is the format we use to teach writing. After the daily mini-lesson and skill focus, students have independent writing time to apply the skills they’re learning.**

**Students choose their own topics during Writing Workshop and sometimes it can be more difficult for students to apply the skills they’ve learned if the writing topic is assigned to them. We’ve been practicing how to merge the two formats over the last couple of weeks. It’s a great review for students to see the same skills can apply to any form of writing!**

**Daily Specials: (Reminder)**

As a reminder, our Daily Specials are based on an ABCD Rotation. Today’s special was Gym, which makes it an “A” day. This week, students will need Gym shoes on Wednesday.

 **“A” Media**

 **“B” Music**

 **“C” Gym**

 **“D” Art (technology is done)**

First, the weather in Michigan is anything but predictable. With the various weather changes it is essential that students come to school prepared for outside play. In the winter this means wearing boots, coats, snow pants, hats, and gloves while also bringing shoes to wear inside the classroom every day. Even with the little snowfall that we have had this season, our playground continues to have piles of snow, puddles, and mud. An occasional day of forgetfulness is understood and our office tries to accommodate by loaning various items to students. Unfortunately, we seem to have a large number of students CHOOSING not to wear the appropriate clothing (hiding it in their lockers or intentionally not bringing it to school) and/or taking advantage of the office on a daily basis. Sitting around in wet clothing is not comfortable and it makes it difficult for others who share the classroom seating areas. As a result, we have explained to students that if they come to school unprepared they will not be able to participate in recess activities. You can help by reminding your child of these expectations, but please emphasize that it is *their* responsibility to come to school prepared.

**Send in those BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION! We’re competing in a contest to collect the most Box Tops!**

**From Mrs. Hogle…**

**Swimming Dates:**

**February 14**

**February 28**

**Please remember that your child needs a towel and bag to carry items to and from the pool.**