

# **B**Belding Area Schools

The right size. The right choice.

**SIMMONS' CLASSROOM EXPRESS**  
Simmons,@bas-k12.org 794-4772

**WEEK OF JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 4, 2012**

**ALL-AMERICAN HEROES**



## **ANDREW WALCOTT— "POSITIVE ATTITUDE"**

Andrew Walcott was chosen as our Tie Club nominee for this week. Andrew has demonstrated a positive attitude for school since the beginning of the year. He takes his learning seriously and find a personal way to enjoy everything that we do. He takes pride in his work and continues to show us his best effort. Congratulations to Andrew Walcott, our newest Tie Club member!

*Zoe Anderson  
Lauren Fisher  
Nicholas Green  
Sydney Huddleston  
Kaitlynn Kent  
Dakota McLaren  
Hunter Milanowski  
Jacob Rodel  
Blessing Spencer  
Autumn Zerkle*



## **MID-WINTER STRETCH!**

This is the time of the year when we get much accomplished at school. We have many important things that students need to be staying on top of and responsible for. Accelerated Reader goals need to be accomplished by the end of the trimester. Students also need to start thinking about who they would like to interview for their veteran's bi-

ography project. Soon, we will be starting our famous person research papers and doing a project on persuasive writing. We have many important skills that students still need to develop in order to be fully prepared for middle school. We intend to be focusing very deliberately on these skills in the weeks to come. As a result, I am going to be tougher on my expectations of students regarding work getting done on time, with quality effort, and with the best possible effort.



**Mr. Simmons' homeroom students:**

**Please return your valentine party slips  
to school this week!  
Thank you!**

**G.R. SYMPHONY / IMAX**

On Friday, March 2, the fifth graders will be attending a special performance of the Grand Rapids Symphony at DeVos Hall in Grand Rapids. We have no more parent seating for the concert. However, we do welcome parents to join us at the IMAX Theater for a 1:15 showing of Space Hubble—3D. Cost is \$5.50 for students and adults and we must have the money prior to the trip. We are currently collecting this from students. Thank you.

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## PARENT INFORMATION TRAINING ON FEB. 27

I will be providing families of Mr. Simmons and Mr. Alderink's classes with a parent information training on "How to Write a Research Paper" on **Monday evening, February 27 at 6:30 p.m.** in the evening. The training will take place in Mr. Simmons' classroom and should last about an hour. The training will include information about the fifth grade "Night of the Notables" event, scheduled for March 27. We will also discuss how to collect resources for researching, how to write key information in the students' own words, and how to cite, with a bibliography, sources used during the research. Many parents have found it challenging to help their children with the research at home because they have not done a research paper themselves for many years. This will hopefully refresh everyone's memory. Students are invited to attend with their parents, although this session is mostly for parents. Refreshments will be served during the training.



## STUDENTS LEARNING HOW TO WRITE DIALOGUE

Students have been learning how to write using dialogue. Dialogue involves people conversing, When writing that conversation, special grammatical rules such as quotation marks, commas, and end marks need to be utilized. Students will be expected to use three different kinds of dialogue in their writing: person named last, person named first, and split quotations. We will be doing lots of practice in class with this type of writing before students will be expected to demonstrate what they know in a writing assessment.

*"Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know."*  
Daniel J. Boorstin



## STAY SAFE!

## READING GROUP STUDYING EVENTS OF 1930's

Students from Reading group 1 are reading Richard Peck's novel titled, [A Long Way From Chicago](#). Students are making project boards to share four important events that happened during the time frame of our book. All four events are mentioned in the book. They are the "Great Depression", the "Dust Bowl", "Prohibition" and the "Valentine's Day Massacre" Students are doing research of these events on the net books and organizing this information in a creative way on the project boards.