

Fourth Grade News

November 2009

November News

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we have been thinking that there is a lot to be thankful for in the fourth grade. We would first of all like to put out a BIG THANK YOU to all of those who helped make our Halloween parties a great success. The kids had a wonderful time! Second, we would like to thank all our parents for coming to parent teacher conferences. We enjoyed that time getting to know you and discussing the strengths of our students, as well as our concerns. We truly could not get through as much if we didn't have the support from you guys at home.

Please be sure to make sure to check your student's assignment notebook every night. Remember a copy of it can be found on our webpage.

As always please feel free to email or call us with any questions.
Kara.morin@ops.org or Gwendolyn.wellsandt@ops.org

Language Arts and Literacy

We are finishing up the first unit in our new reading series. Each story has so many features and extensions it is hard to pick and choose since we don't have enough time to cover them all. Each story has a paired selection of a different genre. We then can focus on different skills with a variety of texts. Our leveled readers are providing a great way to differentiate in the classroom while focusing on the skills. Look for an at-home opportunity to help your child with reading skills to be coming home in the Friday Folders.

Students have now taken their second district writing practice. It is amazing to see how much they have grown as writers. We will be working on adding voice and stronger transitions to our writing to make them more personal and stand out.

Genre Bingo will be due on December 19th, for room 8. Don't forget about your book reports. They can be turned in early.

Math

We are still waiting on our new materials for our Singapore program! Purple and Gold switches have been working well to accommodate everyone's needs.

Students have been working on data analysis and have officially taken their first CRT. Ask your student how they did. Those that did not get an advanced this time will have an opportunity for some re-teaching and the chance to take Form B later this year.

We will continue to work on division as we start working on measurement. Students will be working with customary, as well as metric measurements, to find length, capacity, and mass.

Problem solving practice problems will soon be coming home in Friday Folders. Feel free to help your child through these problems.

Be sure to check out the website for links to some great resources! Students should be studying their flash cards every night.

Social Studies/Science

We continue our journey through Nebraska history this month by learning about explorers, traders, missionaries, and the pioneers. Our culture CRT went very well. Ask your child how they did. For those students who did not get an advanced, there will be an opportunity for re-teaching and the chance to take Form B later this year.

Remember, your child should be bringing home their social studies book every night.

We are very excited to be starting in on our science curriculum at the end of this month. Our first unit will be rocks and minerals. This will also be an opportunity to use our multiple literacies (technology). We look forward to "getting our hands dirty" with in-class lab work. Be forewarned; science is a 95% in-school subject. There will rarely be work to do at home when we begin this endeavor.

Upcoming Events

Jerry Pollotta
Author Visit
November 10

Skating Party
November 20

Marrs Math
Contest
November 23

Mid-Quarter
Reports
November 24

Thanksgiving
Break
November 25-27

Music Program
December 1

What to do if your child says they have "no" homework?

- Read a book!
- Study Flash Cards
- Review Notes
- Study Words to Learn

Students should spend 40 minutes a night on school work.