

Newsletter

April 1st, 2016

March Birthdays -
Happy UnBirthday,
Michael and
Happy Birthday,
Holland!



Updates, Reminders, & FYIs This Week

- ✓ Monday through Friday is F through C Days.
- ✓ Monday - Morning Assembly
- ✓ Tuesday - Chapel
- ✓ Wednesday - Late Arrival - School starts at 8:45.

FYIs... 👁️👁️

Save the Date!

- *April 15th & 18th - No School - Faculty In-Service & Planning Days

Testing

- *Practice WrAP - April 19 & 20
- *WrAP - April 27 & 28, 8:15 - 9:15
- *ERBs - May 2 - 6 (Every morning testing session times vary.)

Please make sure your child is at school for these sessions.

Father's Day/Special Someone Day
is Almost Here!

The students are very busy preparing to host their fathers on April 11th, from 9:45 to 10:45. We are excited about our plans for the dads. We realize that some fathers may not be available. No problem... is there a grandfather, godfather, uncle, or special family friend that could attend in a father's place?

We are looking forward to entertaining the dads and sharing some joy!

Congratulations, Margaret, for having your artwork chosen for the "Great Frame-Up" Art Show exhibit at The Station at Vinings Shopping Center. The Opening Reception is on April 27th from 6:00 - 7:00 P.M.

Ms. Spiers is collecting old CDs and DVDs for a project for our Earth Day celebration on April 22. If you have any that you no longer need, please send them her way. Thank you!



The "Papers to be Signed and Returned" form was sent home on Friday. Thank you for signing and returning the noted papers and the form.

Please visit the Scrapbook on our class website for some great pictures throughout the year!

Here's What We Are Studying

Math

Just so you know... we will be playing darts and billiards during math. Who knew how useful a transparent mirror could be! What a great way to learn about preimages/ images and the difference between lines of reflection and lines of symmetry.

This week's lessons will introduce the students to rigid motions (translations, rotations, reflections) and positive/negative numbers. The Unit 10 lessons will be completed by Wednesday and reviews will begin. The assessment will be given on Friday.

Reader's Workshop

Our focus will be on historical narrative and nonfiction texts. Our social studies and reading lessons will merge. Historical Fiction book clubs will be formed.

Standardized Testing

For further clarification...

The WrAP (Writing Assessment Program) is an assessment provided by the ERB (Educational Records Bureau) organization. The WrAP is composed of two, one-hour sessions given over two days. A prompt, along with suggestions for writing the prompt, is provided the day of the assessment.

The CTP (Comprehensive Testing Program) is a rigorous assessment for high achieving students that is also provided by the ERB.

Although we have been focusing on specific skills, concepts, and strategies to strengthen test-taking abilities, the month of April will be devoted to additional conditioning for the assessments.

Writer's Workshop

Focus: Argumentative/Persuasive Essays

Topic: Is Chocolate Milk Good For You?

The debates and caucusing got very lively last week. I am glad the students are better equipped to engage in this type of activity! Determining what is a reason, as opposed to what is evidence needed some clarification. The importance of using transitions between paragraphs and within each paragraph was reviewed. Positions were determined and prewriting commenced. Prewriting should be completed by Monday.

Grammar/Punctuation Study

*Main, Helping, and Linking Verbs

*Punctuation and Sentence Reviews

Word Study - The students will be given the Fourth Grade Level Spelling Inventory to make sure they are secure in spelling grade level words. Those misspelled words will be used for the next quiz.

Weekly Writing - The "Is Chocolate Milk Good for You" argument/personal essay is due on Friday. The expectation is that students will be working on their piece during the week at home. A limited amount of time will be provided at school for working on the essay.

Social Studies

Our new unit is called, "The Road to Revolution." As mentioned earlier, our social studies and reading workshop lessons will merge to provide a stronger connection between developing higher level literary thinking skills and strategies while focusing on historical people, events and ideas that gave birth to our nation.