

Newsletter

April 14th, 2016

Spring Arts Festival Update

The day before the festival, our class visited Mrs. Story's Upper School art class for a creative drawing experience. Interacting with her students was an added treat! The day of the festival, the students participated in five different venues from 12:30 to 1:30. All of the venues inspired some kind of fun activity. What a terrific festival!

Many thanks to all of the wonderful parents who worked so hard to make this a very special Spring Arts Festival.



Updates, Reminders, & FYIs This Week

- ✓ Monday - No School - Faculty Planning Day
- ✓ Tuesday through Friday is B through E Days.
- ✓ Thursday - Morning Assembly
- ✓ Thursday - BBQ Outdoor Lunch
- ✓ Friday - Earth Day 8:00 - 10:45

FYIs... 👁️👁️

Save the Dates! 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.

- *Chick-fil-A Headquarters Field Trip - April 29th (8:20 - 11:00)

The "Papers to be Signed and Returned" form was sent home on Thursday. 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

The focus this week for Unit 11 lessons will be on reviewing/identifying geometric solids and their parts, learning how to find the volume of 3-D figures, and adding/subtracting positive and negative numbers. The assessment will not be given until the next week.

The students need to make sure they have memorized their units of measurements:

*inches- feet- yards

*millimeters - centimeters - meters

*cups - pints - quarts - gallons

The students need to be able to solve problems such as: 10 cups = _____ pints

Social Studies

The lessons for The French and Indian Wars will be completed this week. The students are taking notes on specific questions during read alouds. Those questions/answers will be discussed. Flashcards with the questions and the answers will be available online. We will be creating our study guide as we go.

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: ERB Test Prep

Last week, the students were given a practice Vocabulary CTP test. The students highlighted all words that were not familiar. As we reviewed the correct answers, we discussed the meanings of these words, as well as strategies to help figure out the meaning of new words.

The students were also given the Reading Comprehension practice CTP. Once again, we worked on strategies for determining the correct responses.

Word Study - Sort 14 was provided last Wednesday. The quiz will be given on Friday.

Weekly Writing - Since the students will be taking a practice WrAP on Tuesday and Wednesday, there will be no weekly writing for this week. Instead, we will be focusing on what it takes to write a good narrative for a prompt. The students will also be completing and reviewing their answers for the two practice writing sections of the CTP.

In addition, the students will be conferencing with me and revising/editing their "Chocolate Milk" essays.

Red Alert!

May 19th is the due date to complete through Lesson 24 of Type to Learn!

Reader's Workshop

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