

Newsletter

April 22nd, 2016

Earth Day Celebration

The Earth Day festivities started out with a grade level scavenger hunt. Earthly clues were scattered throughout the first floor. Hunters scrambled to answer the questions on their "Hunt Sheets" and be the first student back to the classroom. Next, the students were treated to a wonderful presentation by naturalists from the Chattahoochee Nature Center. There were guest appearances by a possum, owl, and a snake! The final activity took place in our classroom. The students made birdhouses out of popsicle sticks and butterfly "puddles" for leaving out a spot of water for our thirsty friends! Fun... indeed!

Updates, Reminders, & FYIs This Week

- ✓Monday through Friday are F through C Days.
- ✓Tuesday - Chapel
- ✓Wednesday - Wrap 8:15
- ✓Thursday - WrAP 8:30
- ✓Friday - Chick-fil-A Field Trip 8:20 - 10:45ish

FYIs... 👁️👁️

Save the Dates!

Testing

*ERBs - May 2 - 6 Every morning testing session times vary. Please make sure your child is well-rested and at school for these sessions.

Swimming starts on May 2nd and will continue through May 19th. As a reminder, I've included the letter to parents (You received this at an earlier date.) as an attachment with the Newsletter Update email.

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

The Unit 11 lessons will be completed at the beginning of the week, reviews will take place, and the assessment will be given this 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

An End-of-the-Year Math Review Packet will be handed out on Wednesday. An End-of-the-Year Assessment will be given just in time for the students to take the math section of the ERBs.

Social Studies

Lessons this week will focus on more events that sparked the colonials change in attitude toward their mother country and moved them forward in their new quest for independence.

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

The students have now completed and discussed five of the seven practice ERB assessments: Verbal Reasoning, Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, Writing Mechanics, and Writing Concepts and Skills. Please look for these practices assessments in the Friday Folder. We will continue our test prep reviews, assessments, and discussions this week.

Word Study - Sort 14 was cast aside. Yes, test prep is our focus. There is a good chance Sort 14 may reappear this week. The quiz will not be given this week.

Weekly Writing - I am not assigning any weekly writing due to the WrAP. The students have been working very hard on becoming better writers. I am proud of the progress they've made since the beginning of the school year. They do not need to be pushed any harder this week. My hope is that each writer will put forth the time and effort to plan, craft, revise, and edit their WrAP in such a way that truly reflects the writing instruction this year. Please ask your child if he/she feels like he/she has grown as a writer this year and what it takes to be a good writer.

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.