

Newsletter

January 29, 2016

Big News! It's a First!

Starting this week, students will be able to take home their laptops on weekends. The only exception is long weekends and holidays. Laptops may not go home on those weekends.
YEA!

Valentine's Box Mania!

It's time to get those creative juices flowing again! What will be the theme for your Valentine's Box? We had a major discussion and a viewing of previous year boxes, as examples, on Wednesday. The boxes must be made at home. The idea is to think "outside of the box!"

The Valentine's Day party is on the 12th. Due to spacial challenges in our classroom, the boxes can't be brought to school until February 10th. Also, don't forget to have a Valentine card for everybody! Candy not required!

Updates, Reminders, & FYIs This Week

✓Monday through Friday is E through B Days.

✓Wednesday is a late arrival day.

✓Wednesday - Chapel at 9:00

✓Thursday - The Fourth Grade Math Celebration - 8:45 - 9:30

FYIs... 👁️👁️

The end of the 2nd Trimester is February 12th.

Math Celebration Update

Wednesday - Students, don't forget to bring your projects to school. We will set the room up in presentation booths. The grade level will rotate between classes, sharing presentations, between 1:40 and 2:40.

Thursday - Students will present their projects to the parents during the Open House from 8:45 to 9:30.

Be sure to practice your presentation. Be able to include why you chose this topic, as well as an overview of your poster. If you are including a game or some kind of interactive activity, be sure to be able to clearly share your directions. You might want to type those up and put them on display too.

The "Papers to be Signed and Returned" form was sent home on Friday. Thank you for reviewing your child's work and for signing and returning the noted papers.

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

Here's What We Are Studying

Math

The Math Celebration Projects should be in their final stages of creation! The posters may be brought to school starting on Monday. They are due on Wednesday. We look forward to seeing all of our parents.

As if long division and constructing angles wasn't enough, now we are on to fractions! We started out with the basics. Now it is time to learn how to add and subtract fractions with like and unlike denominators. An important part of learning how to work with fractions is understanding how fractions relate to the whole and compare to each other. We are also working on reducing fractions to their lowest common denominator.

The Unit 7 Assessment will be given the week after this week.

RED ALERT

Type To Learn lessons through Lesson 16 must be completed by February 12th.

Reader's Workshop

Our new genre study, Social Issues, was finally kicked off. The students were divided into book clubs based upon their choices. Reading and writing goals were set. The first book club gathering will be on Tuesday.

Our most recent weekly reading comprehension exercise was longer and had more questions. It required more stamina. The students were divided into "Correction Groups" to share answers and point out where the answers could be found in the text. Building stronger reading skills and strategies is the goal.

Writer's Workshop

To wrap up the nonfiction writing study, the students were divided into their publishing companies. They are now in the planning stage for the publication of their feature articles.

Grammar/Punctuation Study

For a couple of weeks, the students are being immersed in a noun and punctuation study. This week, the lessons will be completed and an assessment will be given.

Word Study - Sort 10 was handed out on Thursday. Sentences were assigned on Friday. They are due by Tuesday. The quiz will be given on Wednesday.

Weekly Writing - Three essays about the Puritans, Pilgrims, and the Quakers is the writing assignment for this week. The students read about and discussed each of these religious groups in social studies. The students have the notes, as well as their *History of US* book for reference. Number 3 on the social studies study guide explains what is required in each essay. We went over all of this information on Wednesday and practiced orally composing an essay. Don't forget... the study guide and unit notes are attached as a file below this newsletter.

Social Studies

We've completed readings and discussions through the first four topics on the study guide. Our studies of the "Making of the Thirteen Colonies" is in full gear! The above writing assignment will be used as a social studies, as well as, a writing assessment.