



# Newsletter

## November 19th, 2015

Thank you so much for attending our Thanksgiving Chapel service. We hope your heart was filled with Thanksgiving!



## Updates, Reminders, & FYIs

### This Week

✓Monday and Tuesday are C and D Days.

✓Tuesday - The High Museum (Dining at Varsity) Field Trip led by Mrs. Schneider... an artful experience!

Departing By 9:30

Returning by 1:00ish

✓Wednesday the Thanksgiving Holiday begins.

### FYIs... 👁️👁️

During conferences, it was brought to my attention that group texting/chats are beginning to circulate. Just a reminder, we do not encourage this kind of activity nor can it be done on the school laptops.

Parents, Thank you so much for making our conferences such a productive and rewarding experience. We make a great team!



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

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

# Here's What We Are Studying

## Math

Which multiplication method works the best for you? Traditional? Partial-Product? Lattice? Why do we have to learn these methods anyway?

Well, it does help to know that there is more than one way to multiply. Sometimes it is a matter of learning styles. It also helps give you a better sense for the importance of place value and the role it plays in solving an algorithm.

Our class is working on mastering multiplication. For many students, this is not easy. The students are learning how to solve the same types of problems that will be on the Unit 5 Assessment. The tutorial for Monday will focus on the traditional method of multiplication. Snacks are encouraged!

## Writer's Workshop

### Focus: Dialogue/Punctuation Study

Last week, we focused on including meaningful dialogue tags that help to "show not tell." We also added subordinating conjunctions to our repertoire. Yes, we did the AAWWUBBIS Whoop! (A-WOOO-BIS)... a punctuation lesson on adding commas after introductory elements in a complex sentence. Many students are already writing this type of sentence. We also refer to these sentences as having "openers." The mnemonic stands for the words (after, although, as, when, while, until, before, because, if, and since) that signal potential comma work.

**Word Study** - Sort 7 will be provided after the holiday.

**Weekly Writing** - "Creepy" is due on Tuesday. The piece should reflect the dialogue and punctuation work we've focused on over the last several weeks. Writers need to read their stories out loud and print out drafts to make it easier to locate those areas that need to be edited, revised, and further developed. I am looking forward to reading these exciting cliffhangers!

## Reader's Workshop

The next *Blood on the River* reading and writing goals are for Tuesday. Club members are to read through Chapter 9. The writing goal is to choose three characters and explain what motivates them. Explanations should include the name of the person, how they are motivated, and reasons or evidence to support this belief. Writings should be recorded in Readers's Notebooks on the book club page.

## Social Studies

After reading about and discussing the Lost Colony of Roanoke using several resources, the students were asked to develop their theory on what happened to the colony. Each junior historian chose a theory and wrote an essay on why they thought this particular theory was the most logical reason for the colonists disappearance.

Next, we will be turning our attention to the settlement of Jamestown.