



Reading



We are finishing up Unit 1 in reading and will soon be moving on to unit 2.

Unit 2 focuses on doing the right thing. Students will link these stories to our PeaceBuilders program and gain a better understanding of the rewards of making good choices. Each week students will read a different story in their text books, and reading tests will be given on Fridays. Students are encouraged to bring home their reading books to re-read the story on Thursday nights.

On Mondays I will be sending home “Family Times” sheets to give families an idea of what we are reading, weekly concepts, grammar skills, spelling lists, and extension activities you can do with your child at home.

Watch out for an upcoming book report this month. Details will be sent home during the first week of October.

Writing/Language Arts



Students write every day. Currently students are working on organizing and writing answers to open response questions and five paragraph writing prompts, as well as writing a personal narrative. During writing students also learn and practice grammar and editing skills.

Towards the middle of this month students will also be writing a “How To” essay where they will write steps in a process and test out the final product with a buddy.

Spelling lists are given on Monday mornings. Students keep their spelling lists in their agendas, which go back and forth on a daily basis, and on the Monday “Family Times” sheet, to keep at home. Tests are on Fridays.

Math



This month, students will continue to work with decimals. We will master comparing and ordering decimals and then move on to addition and subtraction of decimals. Students will explore lines and angles and be able to classify them. Students will also learn how to

measure angles using a protractor. We will continue to explore graphs this month using a computer program to compile collected data and generate different types of graphs.

Social Studies

Later in October we will be starting a unit on early civilizations. Students will be studying the Maya, Aztec, and Inca tribes. We will also begin learning about the Vikings.

Notices for upcoming projects will be sent home to be signed in advance. This helps to keep all of us on track.

Important dates are always marked in your child's agenda.

Science

We will continue our unit on rocks and minerals this month. We are currently exploring the properties of rocks and minerals through hands on activities and science labs. Ask your child about the labs that they complete with a lab groups.

Please see the extra credit opportunity below.



Reminders

- Please ask your child about class rules and policies. If students are not following classroom rules they will be asked to fill out a "think sheet" which will be sent home to be signed.
- Homework is an extension of class work, and is equally important in learning new skills. **Please remember to check your child's agenda and homework daily.** If your child does not complete a homework assignment, he or she will work on the assignment during recess and points will be taken off of his or her grade.

Extra Credit Opportunity



We have a cool hands-on science experiment for our rocks and minerals unit that involves baking cookies to resemble the different types of rocks. Students then dissect the “rocks” to classify them. Students can earn extra credit if they would like to volunteer to help bake rock cookies for this fun activity. If you are interested in baking rock cookies for our rocks and minerals unit, please send a note in with your child and I will in turn send home information and recipe. I am planning on doing this experiment during the last week of the month. Thank you in advance!