



January News

5B



Reading

We are well into Unit 3 in reading, and learning a lot about inventors and artists. Ask your child how they became an inventor and an artist while reading stories about these important people.

It is always a good idea to review homework and “Family Times” that is sent home every week. This sheet also includes weekly spelling lists. Reviewing will help students to prepare for tests and reinforce skills. Selection tests will still be given on Fridays. This month we will also be starting on another novel. Details and assignments will be sent home starting next week.



Writing/Language Arts

Students write every day. A different writing assignment will be given every week and students will independently write in their journals. We will also continue “Power Writing” to help your child brainstorm and monitor progress as the year goes on. Ask your child about this interesting drill. Students also focus on a lengthy unit writing assignment which we work on over time. Our large writing piece for this unit is a compare and contrast essay where we will compare new and old inventions. These assignments are completed in class in order for students to work through the writing process and become more independent writers.

Spelling lists are given on Monday mornings. Students keep their spelling lists in their agendas and on their Family Times sheet.



Math

Students will be exploring division. In geometry students will be learning about area of triangles, and in measurement we will be learning how to find perimeter and area using different formulas. These formulas will be kept in your child’s math notebook, but can also be found in the math text.

Please remind your child to practice his or her multiplication and division facts regularly. This will help a great deal as we move through division and on to more complex math.

Social Studies

We have finished our Maya, Aztec, and Inca unit in social studies. Student projects are due on January 8th. Next, we will be moving on to learn about the Viking explorers.

Science

When we return from break, we will begin our unit on energy, work, and simple machines. Your child will be doing lots of experiments with lab groups in class so they will become familiar with filling out lab sheets, and exploring with peers in a hands on fashion.

Reminders

- Please check in with your child to see if he or she has the materials needed for school (pens, pencils, notebooks, **book covers**, etc.) so he or she can start 2010 off fresh.
- Please remind your child that materials not needed for class should stay at home. Students should not be bringing in toys or objects that will distract them or others during learning time.
- 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. Since we are getting ready for middle school, **students who are not completing homework regularly will have to stay after school for detention. In this case a 24 hour notice will be given.**
- Any donations of disinfectant wipes or sprays for the classroom are always appreciated! 😊