

Classroom Times

October 2009

Mrs. Camara



What's happening in Room242???

Math:

Students have been working hard on whole numbers and place value. Although this may be review from last year, it is an important concept for students to practice and master. We have completed the last section of chapter two this week and students have taken their first math exam. We have also been studying geometry concepts. We have learned about triangles, angles, and quadrilaterals. The geo boards have been helpful in allowing students to practice.

ELA:

Students have been working hard using our Scott Foresman Reading Program. This is a great program that is both challenging and comprehensive. As fifth graders, students are encouraged to think about the "big picture" in the story. This requires students to reflect on answers that they may not find in the story. All Friday reading tests are open book, and include an open response question. I encourage students who are having difficulty with comprehension to review each week's story at home.

Happy Birthday

October:

Terrel- October 9th

Marissa- October 9th

Science:

Students finished part one of our science unit on plants. I have created study guides and notes for students to use in preparation for tests. We did a few experiments studying leaves and the parts of plants and flowers. Students enjoyed the experiments, and were able to make accurate predictions in their explanations. We will begin part two on plants after our Social Studies unit on maps and globes.

Social Studies:

Students have started learning about maps and globes. They have been assigned a group to work with and complete an in class map project. Students will use the computers to research their assigned map. At the conclusion of their research, they will present their maps to the class. Your child has been given a rubric which details how they will be graded.



Writing:

Writer's workshop is well under way. Students are given writing prompts each week. We have been working on different lessons to assist students in improving their writing abilities. This week we will be working on personal narratives. Students are encouraged to read each writing

prompt carefully, develop a plan, and revise their writing piece.

Study Tips

- Set aside a specific time to do your homework and studying every day. Whether that's right after school or after dinner, a set schedule can often help you focus. Don't try to fit your homework around socializing with friends. Homework should be a priority.
- Create flash cards to help practice what you need to learn
- Find a quiet spot where you can focus and relax.
- Keep all your notes, and read them over, as well as your textbook.
- Ask someone to quiz you on what you have studied (friends or parents).
- Get a good nights sleep and eat a good breakfast
- BREATHE.... And relax....

Notes:

Breakfast:

Please be sure your child eats a good breakfast. They do not have lunch until 12:15 each day.

Specialist Schedule: Your child has access to a board in the classroom that has the monthly schedule. I have encouraged your child to write this schedule in their agenda.

Reading Project: Your child has a "newspaper book report" due on October 29th. We have discussed and reviewed this in class. Please encourage your child to ask questions if they are having difficulty.

Monday Folders: Students have been receiving a folder each Monday. In this folder are student evaluation sheets and corrected work. Please be sure to sign and return the evaluation sheets by Wednesday of each week. If your student brings the folder back on Tuesday they will receive a raffle ticket.