



Reading



We are continuing work in Unit 2 in reading this month, which focuses on doing the right thing. We are going out of our way to look for random acts of kindness and celebrate them. Afterwards, we will be working in Unit 3 which highlights inventors and artists. Each week students will read a different story in their text books, and reading tests will be given on Fridays. Students are required to read the weekly story at home on a Monday, and encouraged to bring home their reading books to re-read the story on Thursday nights. Students can also access a snapshot of the story, activities, and questions by using Pearson Success at home. Each student has a user name and password.

Every Mondays I send home a “Family Times” sheet to give families an idea of what we are reading, weekly grammar lessons, and weekly spelling lists, as well as discussion topics and activities you can do with your child at home.

In addition to our regular reading text, we are currently reading the novel “Number the Stars”. As we read we are learning about the Holocaust and how some people do the right thing to help others no matter what. Students are reading this powerful novel in class, but may have a short assignment to complete at home from time to time. All reading assignments will be noted in student agendas.

Please remind your child to bring a silent reading book to class. When students are finished with work they are often directed to take out an independent reading book.

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 “how to” report. During writing students also learn and practice grammar and editing skills.

Spelling lists are given on Monday mornings. Students keep their spelling lists in their agendas and on Family Times, so they have access to their lists at all times.

Your child can also practice spelling using Spelling City at home. It is a great tool with fun games. Students use spelling city every Monday in the technology lab, so they have a good grasp on how to use the program.

Math

Students will continue to multiply whole numbers and decimals. We will also be learning about measurement, conversion, line symmetry, congruence, and motion.

Please practice the multiplication process and facts at home with your child as needed.

Social Studies

Students will begin studying the Maya, Aztec, and Inca tribes this month.

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

Science

In science, we will begin our unit on energy and simple machines. Watch out for notices for future projects.



Reminders

- Parent/Teacher conferences are this month. Reminders of your time and date will be sent home.
- First term report cards go home this month.
- 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.
- With cold season right around the corner, any donations of disinfectant wipes are appreciated. ☺