

The Fifth Grade Flier

OCTOBER 2009

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

In reading some of us have just finished our historical fiction novels and others are just beginning them. The students who just completed their historical fiction novels will begin to focus on characterization, setting, and creating inferences while reading short stories. Students will also continue to focus on the various structures of text such as cause and effect, compare and contrast, and sequencing which helps with overall comprehension skills.



5TH GRADE HALLOWEEN PARTY

All of the 5th grade classes will have their Halloween Party in the All-Purpose Room, the afternoon of Friday, October 30th. It will begin following the school parade which starts at 1:45. If your child chooses to bring a costume to school, please be sure it is school appropriate.

October 2009

Inside this issue:

Reading	1
Mathematics	1
Social Studies	2
Congratulations!	2
Data Report	2

MATHEMATICS

All students are currently working towards mastering curriculum indicators and objectives in their math classes.

Each class is working on the following:

Math B -> Algebraic Expressions: Exponents, Scientific Notation, Formulas & Expressions, Integers, Equations & Inequalities with Integers.

Math A -> Fractions, Decimals, and Percents.

5th Grade Math-> Divisibility, LCM, GCF, and Exploring Equations.

DATES to REMEMBER:

- **October 12th** Classroom Open House 9:00–12:00
- **October 16th**—MSTA Convention—NO SCHOOL
- **October 30th** Halloween Parade and Party— 1st Marking Period Ends
- **November 2nd** Report Card Preparation—NO SCHOOL
- **November 4th** Field Trip to Mount Vernon
- **November 10th** Veteran's Day Concert
- **November 11th** Half Day for Parent / Teacher Conferences
- **November 12th** Half Day for Parent / Teacher Conferences



SOCIAL STUDIES- CITIZENS IN ACTION: THE COLONIES REVOLT

Since we are now in the second half of the marking period, our content instruction has shifted to Social Studies. Students have begun the unit by learning about the 5 **rights** guaranteed to all citizens by the U.S. Constitution and the 3 main **responsibilities** that should be exercised by all in order to maintain a true democracy. We are also reviewing the three branches of government and the delicate balance that exists be-

tween them. Students will also be exploring how change is created by working within or outside a political system. This will lead us to the past and the colonial protests that set the stage for the American Revolution. Students will then explore the critical political, social, and economic issues that led to the American Revolution and our freedom from Britain.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENSATIONAL SUMMER READERS AND MATHEMATICIANS

Over the summer we had many 5th Grade students that participated in the Summer Reading program. This program was sponsored by the public library and participants were additionally awarded with a certificate and a water bottle from the Matsunaga reading specialists, Ms. Gordon and Mrs. Lennon.

We also had several 5th grade students complete the summer math packet. The 5th grade teachers were so pleased to see how many students worked on their math skills over the summer! Listed below is the number of students who completed either the reading program or the math packet from the 5th grade:

Reading Program: 26 students

Math Packet: 75 students



DATA REPORT

In each newsletter we will be highlighting different statistical measures that we use at Matsunaga to monitor and measure progress that our students are making. One such measure is the MAP-R (or Measure of Academic Progress for Reading) which is a state-aligned computerized adaptive assessment that provides accurate, useful information about student achievement and growth. In the fall of fifth grade the median score expected of stu-

dents is 208. The data at the right shows the following results:

25% Below Target

38% On Target

37% Above Target

We will use students' individual data to inform and differentiate our instruction.



