

# Stonegate Elementary School

## Fourth Grade Newsletter

### Month of April 2011



#### WHAT'S GOING ON

##### **Language Arts:**

- \* We are using *Write Traits* and the writing process to compose personal expression writing pieces.
- \* We will examine the life of a person by reading biographies, autobiographies, and memoirs. We will make connections between the life of an author and their works of literature.
- \* We will analyze the elements of poetry to facilitate understanding and interpretation.
- \* Mrs. Morgan's class has incorporated many aspects of the curriculum in our study of the Iditarod: map skills, computation of distances traveled (math), realistic fiction, historical fiction, biographies and plays.
- \* Mrs. Altaner's class will engage in the William and Mary Highly Gifted Program. Students will analyze autobiographies using short stories and poetry. Students will also read various chapter books.

##### **Math: Mrs. Thebaud's and Mrs. Summers' classes:**

- \* Will be exploring patterns in time measurement by focusing on equivalent periods of time and elapsed time.
- \* Will be exploring patterns in multiplication and division.
- \* Will be using several strategies for two-digit multiplication and long division.

##### **Math: Mrs. Morgan's math class:**

- \* Has studied common and decimal fractions that represent fractional parts; how probability can be represented both numerically and graphically and explored decimals, percents and ratios. We will be completing Unit Three with an Assessment on April 6 - 7. A study guide was sent home.
- \* Unit Four will explore the topics of collecting and organizing data, finding measures of central tendency and analysis of data.

##### **Science:**

- \* We will be completing our unit on chemistry, "Solids, Liquids and Gases", with an assessment on April 4. A study guide was sent home.
- \* We will begin exploring the materials that make up the Earth's surface for our third unit of study "Earth Materials". Making detailed observations and recording observations are key skills to be developed throughout the unit.

##### **Social Studies:**

We will expand our study of immigration to the early settlement period of St. Mary's City. We will be introduced to the culture of the early Maryland settlement.

##### **Write Traits:**

- \* We are focusing on using voice in our writing piece.

#### COMING ATTRACTIONS



- **Ben's Run: Saturday April 2**
- **PTA Meeting: Tuesday, April 5, @ 7:00 P.M.**
- **Report Cards Distributed: Thursday, April 7**
- **Principal's Coffee: Friday, April 8 from 8:30 - 9:30 A.M.**



- **Field Trip to Smithsonian, "Gems and Minerals Hall" Friday, April 29**
- **Spring Break: April 18 - 25**

#### ASK ME ABOUT

- Mary Amato
- Jane Pinczuk
- MacBeth by Shakespeare
- St. Mary's City
- Matter
- Gymnastics/PE

#### TAKE A BOW



- Fourth graders should take a bow for a wonderful Music Night performance!
- Fourth graders should take a bow for making the Honor Roll and Learning Skills Award.

#### DON'T FORGET

- \* To sign your child's planner every night.
- \* To review your child's Data Binder when it comes home.
- \* To help your child keep their binder organized and check their backpacks.