

Fourth Grade Newsletter

Math

Ms. Shaffer:

In math we have been working on identifying fact families, factors and multiples of numbers. We have also learned to identify and create number sentences and simplify numeric expressions using number properties. We will continue to work on mastery of basic multiplication and division facts throughout Unit Two. Also coming up in this unit, students will be learning how to solve for an unknown variable (algebra), identify patterns, and complete a function table.

Mr. Gravell and Mr. Bogart:

Our next unit in math will cover fractions, decimals, and ratios. We will begin this unit by pre-assessing the students' understanding of the concepts that will be covered. Students will also begin learning about dividing whole numbers. Please continue working with your child on memorizing their multiplication facts.

Reading

The fourth grade has been studying Realistic Fiction. We looked at a variety of Realistic Fiction novels to examine the setting, theme, character traits and mood. This month we will be studying Historical Fiction. We will be examining the characters' traits in Historical Fiction novels to determine their motives. We will be comparing and contrasting Historical and Realistic Fiction throughout the month.

Science

In Science we have been looking at the effects pollution on our environment. Right now students are examining the pollution problem in the Chesapeake Bay. In the coming weeks they will be coming up with some possible solutions to this growing problem by looking at the major polluters. We will also be going to the Baltimore Aquarium on December 19, 2011.

Social Studies

The due date for our Native American Project is Friday, December 16th. Students have been working on this project at school. If a student does not finish their work in class, they can complete the project at home. Students will receive both a social studies and writing grade for this project.

Our next unit of study will be on Immigration. Students will learn about different cultures and the reasons people migrate to other countries. Please ask your child about some of the concepts they are learning during this unit.

Other Information:

- The Book Fair: Week of December 5th
- Interims are sent home: Friday, December 9th
- Winter Concert: Tuesday, December 13th
- SGA Spirit Day (Twin Day): Friday, December 16th
- Baltimore Aquarium: Monday, December 19th
- Winter Break: No School December 24th through January 2nd.