

FOURTH GRADE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Curriculum Highlights

Reading: We just completed our genre study on fables. For the remainder of quarter one and through quarter two, students will explore three different genres: fantasy, realistic fiction, and historical fiction. Novel selections will rotate through all three classrooms – so the order in which your child will study each genre will vary from teacher to teacher. Students are learning how to respond to brief constructed response questions for both nonfiction and fiction text.

Writing: Students are writing their own fables. Students take their writing pieces through the writer's workshop process and will practice peer conferencing and revising.

Math: Students in Ms. Shaffer's class will be working on place value. Mr. Bogart and Mr. Gravell's classes will begin the second unit on geometry. All students will be tested on basic multiplication facts.

Science: Students are learning about ecosystems. Our children are making qualitative and quantitative observations of an aquarium that they helped construct. The activities in this unit are helping our children learn about the basic needs of producers, consumers, decomposers, and scavengers.

Social Studies: Students will complete their study of United States geography. By the end of quarter one, students should correctly identify the five regions and the names of each of our fifty states. Students will learn about the geographic characteristics and history of Maryland. Furthermore, this will be done to prepare for our field trip to Historic St. Mary's City on Wednesday, October 26th.

Other News

- Science Club will begin on Thursday, October 13, 2011.
- Open House is on Monday, October 12, 2011 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM.
- Fourth Grade Academic Night on Wednesday, October 15, 2011 from 7:00 to 8:00 PM.
- No school on Friday, October 21, 2011.
- Our field trip to Historic St. Mary's is Wednesday, October 26, 2011. Please arrange for transportation for your child before and after school.
- October 28 is both the date for our Halloween Parties and the end of quarter one.
- We look forward to meeting with you during Parent-Teacher conferences in November.