

Kindergarten Newsletter • October, 2011



Curriculum Notes

Literature: For the month of October we will continue to work on story elements. Students will identify characters, the setting, retell important events, and make connections to the text. We will also read many fall books to recognize characteristics and signs of fall. Students will have the opportunity to retell poems, listen to songs, and create art projects.

Reading: Reading group instruction will begin the first week of October. Instruction will be planned based on each child's reading needs. Students will receive reading instruction in small groups. These groups will be flexible as a child's growth is ever changing. We will continue to learn about print through whole group class discussion and literacy centers. Literacy centers provide an opportunity to practice reading and writing skills.

Math: The children will continue to collect, record, and represent data in tables, pictographs, bar graphs and tally graphs. They will also work on counting, sorting and making patterns. Unit 1 math testing will begin at the end of October.

Writing: The children will have a variety of writing experiences, including journal writing, making class books and participating in writing workshops. Students are working on using good writing strategies like using 5 colors, listening for sounds in words, and leaving spaces between words. Students will also be creating different kinds of lists and notes for writing about a topic.

Science/Social Studies: In Science we will continue to explore different types of weather. Students are describing different types of weather using new vocabulary, explaining effects weather has on living things, participating in experiments, and making projects. In Social Studies students are discovering symbols of the United States like the flag, Statue of Liberty, the Bald Eagle and Mt. Rushmore. Students will also learn about roles and responsibilities different staff members have at Gibbs Elementary.

Important Dates

October 3 - Interims Go Home

October 4- PTA Meeting at 6:30 in the Media Center

October 5 - Walk To School Day

October 6- Study Circles Information Meeting at 6:30pm in the Media Center

October 10 - Columbus Day Parent Open House (9:30-12:00)

October 13- Gibbs ES Math/Literacy Night from 6:30pm-8:30pm

October 15 - Cluster wide Fun Run at Gibbs ES (8:00am)

October 19- Principals Coffee from 10am-11am in the Media Center; PTA Spirit Night at Red Robin

October 20- Study Circles Session 1 in the Media Center from 6:30-8:30pm

October 21 - MSTA Convention (No School)

**** Dates Continued on back ****

Kindergarten Teacher Emails

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October 26 - Kindergarten fieldtrip to Butler's Orchard from 10:30-1:30

October 27 - Individual Student Pictures; Study Circles Session 2 in the Media Center from 6:30-8:30pm

October 29 -Halloween Party (2:15-3:15); PTA Fall Harvest from 7pm-9pm

October 31- No School for Students (Teacher report card preparation)