

3RD GRADE NEWS

North Chevy Chase Elementary School

November 2011

Important Curriculum News



Fall into Learning!

Writing News

During this month in writing, the students will be fully engaged in the continuous writing process of brainstorming, pre-writing, editing, revising (on repeat!), and publishing. We will be working on writing personal narratives based on a fall memory while incorporating lots of details from our 5 senses.

While editing and revising our work, we will also review the proper structure of a sentence, writing a paragraph, and using correct spelling and grammar.

3rd Grade Reading

Welcome to the second quarter of reading! This month we are continuing our study of nonfiction text. We are working to identify the main idea of texts and determine the importance of details that we find. We will also be looking at the different ways nonfiction texts are organized: cause and effect,

sequential order, and compare and contrast. Identifying and understanding how text features help us read in order to perform a task and gather information from a text is also continuing to be a focus for us in reading.

November's book project will be focusing on nonfiction animal books. Be sure to have your child tell his or her reading teacher which book will be used for the project no later than November 11. The presentation of the project will occur on Tuesday, November 29.

Helpful Hints:

-If your child is going home one day not in his/her usual way, please call the school office to inform them of the change.

- Our next field trip will be on November 29th to the National Building Museum. If you haven't paid for the trip yet, please contact your homeroom teacher.

-Please review the assignments listed in the agenda book each night and sign that you have seen it.

- Also sign for the reading log in your child's agenda book as it is a part of his/her homework.

- Please remember to check the Friday Folder for weekly home-school communication!

Science News

In science, students have been enthusiastically studying the plant-growth cycle. Students have read many informational texts, studied many diagrams and have worked in collaborative groups to thresh out their knowledge of plants and pollination. In class, students planted brassica seeds, and observed their growth cycle. Students observed many types of plants and compared and contrasted the similarities and differences. In order to observe the pollination process, students created “bee sticks” and pollinated their plants. We will soon begin to reap the benefits of a successful pollination in the form of our very own, newly grown, brassica seeds!

In the upcoming weeks, students will continue to observe, discuss and debate the roles of bees, bugs and people in pollination. Be sure to ask your young scientist what they have been doing in science class!



Social Studies News:

In social studies, the students will be diving into the study of geography. We will identify the elements of a map to create one of our own as well as examine various different maps of the world.

We will also start to look into concerns of a community and become problem solvers to argue appropriate solutions. Students will have to consider the geographic characteristics affected and economic resources needed in order for their solutions to work.

Math News

Math 4

Math 4 students have just begun Unit 2 and are working to develop an understanding of mathematical language as they continue to extend their knowledge of numeric patterns and relationships. Please work with your child to help with the mastery of basic multiplication facts (0-12). This will help students make reasonable estimates and perform operations with larger numbers. Additionally, the understanding of factor and multiple concepts will be developed to provide a foundation for understanding common multiples and factors in next year's math course. Also In this unit, students will learn that known quantities can be expressed using numbers and symbols ($8+2+ 3= 15-2$), and unknown quantities are represented by letters.

Math 3

Math 3 students have begun Unit 2 in and are currently investigating linear measure using customary and metric measurements. The methods of conversion from smaller to larger and larger to smaller units of measure will be explored. Additionally, math students will use capacity, weight, temperature, and time to solve problems. Later in the unit, students will investigate relationships between perimeter and area as well as area and probability.

Teacher Contact Information

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