

October 2009 Newsletter



Fourth Grade Ronald McNair Elementary School “Work Hard, Be Nice”

Reading

We are continuing our unit on fantasy and reading novels that include fantasy elements. We are focusing on writing brief constructed responses and going back to the text for examples that support our thinking. We will begin our unit on fables later in the month. In the fable unit, students will be able to identify character traits and character motives.

Science and Social Studies

In social studies, students have begun exploring the atlas and learning how to read maps. We also have begun to construct our ecocolumns that will consist of a terrarium and aquarium in order for the students to observe the relationships between living and non-living things. Our field trip to Black Hills Regional Park was a great success, thanks to our courteous and curious students, helpful parent volunteers and knowledgeable tour guides.

Writing

Students are completing their personal narratives in class. They used a graphic organizer to brainstorm and organize their details of a vivid memory they wanted to write about. They are using the writing process of prewriting, drafting, sharing, revising, rewriting, and publishing.

Math

In math, we continue to learn about data analysis and how to construct various types of graphs. We will revisit and review place value through out the month, but we will begin the third focus area of geometry in the next few weeks. Students will be able to:

- 2.4.2.1 Identify, classify, and sketch acute, right and obtuse angles and relate them to real-world examples
- 2.4.1.1 Use manipulatives, pictorial representations, and appropriate vocabulary to identify and describe the attributes of solid figures
- 2.4.3.2 Draw circles, triangles, and quadrilaterals given their dimensions
- 2.4.1.2 Identify parallelism and perpendicularity of geometric figures and real world objects
- 2.4.3.1 Identify, draw, label, and describe points, lines, line segments, and rays

Back to School Night

Thank you to all of the parents who attended Back to School Night. We hope you learned something new about our classes and what we do. If you would like further information about anything we covered at Back to School Night, please contact your child's teacher.

Fourth Grade Team

Cory Anastasi
Caitlin Fauce
Deborah Huffer
Kristine Johncox
Stacey Shorter
Pat Tilbury

Reminders

- Look for **Data Notebooks**, including **Learning Skills** on Fridays
- Bring in two empty 2 liter bottles for science.
- Students are to bring their **agenda** to school each day.
- Students are to return their signed **Data Notebooks** to school each Monday.
- **The 4 R's for Homework:**

Read for 20 minutes each night. **Review**—homework is meant as a review of concepts already covered in class. **Run**—kids need play and exercise!
Rest—a good night's sleep makes for an alert student.