

November Newsletter

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

Important Information:

We cannot believe the quarter is already wrapping up! It has gone by quickly and the students have learned a lot. We are proud of their progress so far!

EL Plans were set up a few weeks ago. These plans outline the testing accommodations your child may receive in class and on assessments. 3-5 parents: you should have received, signed, and returned the EL Plan a week or two ago. K-2 parents, EL Plans will be shared at parent/teacher conferences.

Mrs. Bull and Mrs. Dembnicki plan to attend as many Parent-Teacher conferences as possible. We will also share a conference sheet with information on how your child is progressing with their English proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking. We look forward to seeing you at conferences!

Kindergarten

Kindergarteners will finish up unit 3, which focuses on **stories**, and start unit 4, which focuses on **plants**. They will work on the language skills below:

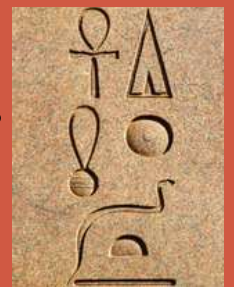
- expand sentences by using prepositional phrases
- add adjectives to their speaking to give details
- distinguish between living and non-living things
- identify the connection between what living and non-living things need to survive
- sequence and retell the life cycle of a plant



First Grade

The students in first grade are finishing up a narrative unit with the theme "**different lands, similar stories**", and will begin unit 4 about **early world civilizations**. They will:

- compare/contrast life during ancient times with life today
- identify and use past tense verbs
- identify and describe reactions to different situations
- condense several ideas into one sentence
- determine multiple meanings of words



Second Grade

Second graders will use what they learned in unit 3 about the **ancient Greek civilization** to their learning in unit 4, focusing on **Greek Myths**. They will work on the following skills:

- add descriptive details to sentences
- recount a myth by sequencing events
- use linking and temporal words and phrases to connect events
- write descriptive details using adjectives
- draft, proofread, and edit a Greek myth



Third Grade

Third graders will wrap up unit 3 on the **human body** and begin unit 4, which is about the **ancient Roman civilization**. They will:

- identify key words and main ideas in texts about Roman gods and goddesses
- distinguish how synonyms produce shades of meaning and different effects on the audience
- determine the meaning of unknown words using prefixes
- distinguish between past, present and future verb tenses



Fourth graders are beginning part two of **Empires in the Middle Ages** where students examine Islamic Empires in what is now called the Middle East.

Students will work on the following language skills:

- giving and supporting opinions using modals



Fourth Grade

- applying meaning with content specific vocabulary
- writing biographical reports



Fifth Grade

Fifth graders will begin their poetry unit in which poets included are of European, Middle Eastern, African American, Native American, and Hispanic descent.

Throughout the unit, students will read texts closely and carefully. Students will also demonstrate their understanding



of poems through written analysis and poetry writing!

Poetic language skills include:

- rhythm, rhyme, and stanzas
- figurative language
- vocabulary

