

Week of October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Dear Parents/Grandparents:

Thank you to all of you who have brought in castle supplies! Huge thanks to David Swieter for taking all of our "stuff" to the storage shed this time around.

Conferences are this week. I apologize to those whom I had to reschedule. Thank you for being flexible. If you were not able to sign up for a time, please let me know a time the next week (October 31-November 4) that would work for you.

Halloween Party sign up is outside the classroom door. Friday, students may change into their costumes after lunch. Remember, costumes must be appropriate: no weapons or clothing that would not normally be allowed at school. Our party will begin around 2:30.

**Activity packet for the new IDR book is due November 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**This week:**

**Spelling (Riggs):**

***Tuesday:*** New words, Lesson 90 4x each; Lesson 89 definitions; Lesson 88 sentences; Test on Lesson 85; Test on Lesson 87

Wednesday.

***Wednesday:*** New words, Lesson 92 4x each; Lesson 90 definitions; Lesson 89 sentences; Test on Lesson 87. Test on Lesson 88 Thursday.

***Thursday:*** New words, Lesson 93 4x each; Lesson 92 definitions; Lesson 90 sentences; Test on Lesson 88; Test on Lesson 89 Friday.

***Friday:*** New words, Lesson 94 4x each; Lesson 93 definitions; Lesson 92 sentences; Lesson 89 test; Test on Lesson 90 Tuesday.

**Writing:**

We worked a little on the website storybird.com. It is a site that helps students write creatively. Since we are working on Narrative

Writing, this site is useful in helping them generate ideas and making sure their ideas flow together and make sense. Aside from this project, we are continuing our other work with Narrative Writing. Students are generating ideas and putting together the pieces that we have discussed - characters, setting, and plot - to create their own story. In Language, we are continuing to learn about prepositions and objects of the preposition. We continue to practice correct subject/verb agreement.

### Reading:

This week we continue Analyzing Text Structure including character, setting, and plot. We will read the text Chicken Sunday by Patricia Polacco.

A new set of activities was sent home last week for their new IDR book. This packet is due on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Independent Reading time will be given each day in class, and students are also expected to read 20 minutes at home each night.

Students will receive a Reading Log tonight that is due next Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. They will be expected to fill this log out on their own with the reading they do at home. Reading Logs are sent home every week.

### Core Knowledge Literature:

We will finish reading The Legend of Sleep Hollow by Washington Irving. We will watch two presentations of the book on Friday. One is the Disney version (animated.) The other version is a musical/play put out by PBS. These versions are very different, and they give two unique perspectives of the story.

### Math:

We will complete lessons 46-49 this week.

Social Studies:

Last week we studied a map of Europe and what countries looked like in Medieval times. This week we will discuss the Visigoths and Attila the Hun. We will discuss why the time period of 450-1400 AD is called the Dark Ages. Mark your calendars for our Christmas Medieval Feast - **Sunday**, December 11<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Science:

Last week we had an overview of the three types of rocks. We specifically looked at Sedimentary Rocks. This week we will learn about Igneous and Metamorphic Rocks.

I hope this letter helps you understand what our week looks like. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or email me or write a note in your student's planner. Please remember to review and sign your student's planner every night.

Please save toilet paper/paper towel rolls, empty coffee cans, boxes, Pringles cans, etc. for our castle building in December!

Sincerely,

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