

October 21, 2011

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that we have one more week in October. Needless to say it will be a chaotic week with conferences and the Halloween party.

Spelling/Vocabulary: I am anxious to see how the kids do on their upcoming spelling/vocabulary test with having a longer period of time to study. Hopefully, they will use this time wisely and not procrastinate more.

Writing: Our grammar piece for the week will deal with creating compound sentences by using coordinate conjunctions and connective adverbs. We will also work with contractions, identify a/an choices, classify sentences, and take the chapter review quiz. There will also be journaling, writing critiques, and Halloween-themed creative writing activities.

Reading: This week will conclude our Sherlock Holmes mysteries unit. I anticipate that we will have a bit of time at the end of the week to read some famous spooky stories that are just perfect for this time of the year.

Math: Both groups will be taking their next assessment on Thursday, plus their supplemental lessons on newly learned concepts. On Friday, we will do pumpkin-related math activities.

Red group --- More decimals! This time written in expanded notation and multiplied by 10 and 100.

Blue group --- This group will be having dreams (or nightmares) about fractions after this week! They will work with fractions equal to 1, subtract fractions from 1, and find fractions equal to a whole number.

Science: We have discussed the history of classification and its evolution to the system that is currently used. The kids have also developed an acronym that should make it simpler to remember the seven levels of classification. We will continue to learn more about how each of the kingdoms differs as we progress through the remainder of the unit.

Social Studies: If all goes as planned, we should complete the reading, discussion, and supplemental activities for the Great Lakes and the Lakes of Eurasia on Tuesday, and then begin our culminating project on Thursday.

Character Education Assembly: The assembly to recognize the "Failure Leads to Success" recipients will be on Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. in the gym. Our class chose Alexis Steinbar as the student who exhibits this character key consistently.

Parent Teacher Conferences: There are still slots available if you haven't yet signed up conferences. If you cannot make it to conferences during those times, please let me know and I will schedule another time that will work better for you.

Halloween: The costume parade and classroom parties will be on Friday, beginning at 2:30 p.m. Students are not allowed to wear costumes to school, but will have the opportunity to change later in the afternoon. Bear in mind that dogs are not permitted as part of the costume unless they are service dogs. If you are interested in bringing goodies for the class party, there is a sign-up sheet outside our door.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child, please contact me at school or by e-mail (lisarupple@re3j.com).

Sincerely,

Lisa Ruppel

Reminders:

- Breakfast burritos are available every Wednesday for \$3.00.
- Character Ed. Assembly on Wednesday at 3:00 p.m.
- Chick-fil-A hot lunch on Friday
- Bookmobile on Thursday, November 3rd