

October 3, 2011,

Dear Parents,

Another month has just flown by! If only it would begin to feel more like autumn than summer, maybe the students wouldn't feel so restless during the day.

Spelling/Vocabulary: We will have our typical activities for our new spelling unit, but we will also be taking our second orthography test on Tuesday. Encourage your child to be studying all week long. The definitions seem to be the most difficult part for the class to remember. The students also need to remember that just because the test is over, that doesn't mean they are no longer responsible for correctly spelling past words in their daily work.

Writing: This will be another grammar- focused week. The test for chapter three will be given today. The remainder of the week will be spent reviewing subject pronouns, possessive pronoun adjectives, homonyms, conjunctions, simple sentences, fragments, run-ons, and compound parts. They will also have their second homework assignment on Friday and do some journaling.

Reading: Last Friday, we finished our first Sherlock Holmes story and will cover another one this week. The students should now have an idea of what they will be doing on their vocabulary exercises and comprehension questions. If we stay on schedule, we will have the quiz over this story on Friday. Our next "Genre of the Month" project presentation is on October 14th. Several students had difficulty finishing their books for the last project. It is imperative that all students be reading at home in order to complete their books. There simply isn't enough time in the average school day to get everything done without some things needing to be worked on after school.

Math: Today is a math test day; therefore, the students will be working on supplements instead of a problem set.

Red group --- This group will be working on subtracting fractions and mixed numbers from whole numbers, adding and subtracting decimal numbers and whole numbers, plus squared numbers.

Blue group --- The plan for this group is an investigation on organizing and analyzing data and then problem sets on multiplying two-digit numbers and naming numbers through hundred billions.

Science: We were running behind last week so we didn't get our new classification unit started, but will definitely do that this week! The unit will start off with a video overview, and then move on to vocabulary, categorizing and sorting activities, and discussion on the history of classification.

Social Studies: Our world lakes unit also got off to a slow start. We played our first round of World Lakes Jeopardy with better than expected results. This week, we will discuss the unit vocabulary and why people live near lakes, use

atlases for a treasure hunt, read a section from our social studies book, and use diagrams to differentiate the four types of lakes.

Drama: Tryouts for the play will be held on Thursday for 5th graders.

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.
- Pizza hot lunch on Friday.
- Bookmobile this Thursday (I made an error last week.)
- Vision and hearing screening for 5th grade on October 18th.
- Parent teacher conferences October 25th - 28th.