

September 6, 2011,

Dear Parents,

Just when we finally start to get our routine worked out, we throw in a new twist. Our first round of Acuity tests start this week. We will be taking the math portion Tuesday afternoon and the language arts section on Thursday morning. If your child will not be here during these two specific time frames, please let me know as soon as possible.

Spelling/Vocabulary: This marks the beginning of our third unit and the students are starting to get the hang of how the process works. I mentioned to the class last week that we would have a separate test over the accumulating roots, prefixes, and suffixes after every five lessons. While this assessment is still in the future, I highly recommend that your child be reviewing these cards several times a week so it won't be as difficult once the test deadline approaches.

Writing: During our writing period, we will be discussing topics, supporting, and non-supporting sentences, plus revising and editing our thank you notes before writing the final copy. Then, we will move on to expository writing. Our grammar component will consist of expanding and revising practice sentences. On Wednesday, we will be doing a chapter checkup which is essentially a mid-chapter review quiz.

Reading: We are reaching the climax of The Secret Garden and the kids' are eagerly awaiting each day's chapters. Friday will bring this novel to a close and we will review for the test which will be given on Tuesday, September 13th. The Secret Garden Notebook should be used as a study guide for this assessment.

Math: The next math test will be given on Thursday for both groups. Supplements will be assigned that day, but not a full problem set. Please note that Supplements are different than problems sets and will be listed as S72 in the grade book as opposed to PS72 for problem sets.

Red group --- Factors, divisibility, and comparing fractions will be our focus in this group.

Blue group --- This group will look at writing quotients as mixed numbers, pictures of mixed numbers, and measuring angles. All student need to study their vocabulary lists to be prepared for the vocabulary quiz on Thursday.

Science: As we work through our scientific method unit, we will continue to discuss lab rules and procedure, plus why it is important to repeat experiment testing. We will also complete a sample experiment to reinforce the steps of the scientific method.

Social Studies: This week we will be finishing our activities on coordinates and map projections and then work on balloon globes to emphasize these ideas.

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 on September 8th.