

Mrs. Larsen's Fourth Grade Newsletter

chibird



November 11-15, 2019

Units of Study

Reading: We are finishing our Middle Ages unit this week, which means the kids will be taking some reading comprehension and content assessments.

Writing: The kids will starting on their 5-paragraph essay about the people during the Middle Ages. They will be introduced to their first official outline plan. Up until right now we have been using more of graphic organizers with squares and boxes to plan our writing. We will be showing a more advanced/intermediate way to plan their writing. We are not giving up our skeleton map or FLEE map way of planning, but slowly moving them towards what will be expected of them in the later years.

Math: We have dove into LONG DIVISION. The kids are plugging away at it. They like to tell me that they will never get it. I tell them to reframe their thinking and say "I don't" get this yet, but I will keep trying until I do." KEEP PRACTICING MULTIPLICATION FACTS AT HOME.

Science/ Social Studies: **Science:** We have started our Variables science unit towards the this past week. In this unit they will practice changing one variable at a time to see if it changes the results. So if you think back to your middle/high school science, it really is the independent and dependent variables and controlled experiments. This unit really supports the work they do on the 5th grade science fair projects. This week we will be making "airplanes" and testing how variables affect how far their planes fly along a fishing line.

Exploratories Schedule

Our regular Exploratories (Specials) time is from 9:10-10:00 AM.

Monday: Music

Tuesday: PE

TEAMS: Tuesdays 10:00-11:00AM

Wednesday: Music

Thursday: Art

Friday: Spanish

Homework

Math: The student did not check off their 0-12 math facts or earned a 85/100 or better (consistently) on their multiplication time tests, received multiplication homework on Thursday. It will be due on Monday, 11/11, at the start of class. They will still get chances to check-off facts and take timed tests every other week in class.

Reading: Independent Reading/Reading Aloud (20 minutes)

Spelling : List and Tic-Tac-Toe cover sheet goes home Thursday 11/14. I will send the words in the next newsletter.

Mustang Service Corps (MSC)

MSES Local School Service Project!

We are working with Happy Cats Haven to raise money to build shelters for feral cats. Happy Cats Haven cares for over 1,000 feral cats daily across Colorado Springs. We are excited to work with our local branch here in Manitou Springs! Mustang Service Corps will be selling rings and buttons at the school store starting this Friday to raise enough money to build a shelter with each class. Our goal is to begin building the shelters by mid December. Teachers will pick students to come down to Mrs. B's room to help serve our school on Thursdays and Fridays. If your child is interested in designing a button they can come down to the computer lab to get a button template to design at home as well. There are so many ways to help serve!!

Items for sale as of Friday, November 8th:

3D printed kitty cat rings will be 25 cents

Buttons will be 50 cents

- We will also have a donation bin by the office

Accelerated Reader (AR) Reward Party

We will be having our 1st quarter (we haven't had time until this week) AR reward party on Friday, 11/15 at 2:00pm. The kids voted on having a blanket fort-Stuffie party. So on Friday, the kids can bring in one blanket and one stuffed animal, all of which fits into a bag that they can carry themselves. I don't want any of those giant teddy bears from Costco showing up in our classroom. In order for the students, to participate in the reward party, they had to earn 4 AR points in 3 months. Kids earn points by reading books, taking comprehension quizzes and passing with an 85% or better. A Bernstein Bear book is worth about ½ point, a Magic Treehouse book is worth 1 point, and a typical 4th grade book is around 2-4 points to give you an idea what books are worth. If a student did not earn 4 points, they will visit Ms. Goldman's classroom for that 45 minutes and join her class in their learning activities.

Upcoming Events

Monday, Nov. 12 @10am: Veteran's Day Performance in MSES Auditorium

Thanksgiving Break – Monday, Nov. 19- Friday, Nov. 23 – NO SCHOOL

