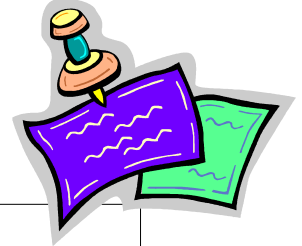


KEEPING IN TOUCH

January 30, 2012



Week in Review

MS. MCTIGHE'S CLASSES

Reading

We are continuing to work on the theme of change this week. Groups have brainstormed things that change and now we will try to categorize the items on their list. We'll also use the Tabla Model of Concept Development which is one of the important thinking models in this program. We will have continuing discussions about whether or not everything changes. Students will begin reading *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett. We'll learn about the expectations for this novel and the assignments that will go along with it. There will be a spelling test tomorrow on the WordMasters words and a definition test on Friday. For that test they only need to know one definition and they don't need to know the part of speech. A fantasy novel is due on Feb. 10th. Independent Study is due on Thursday, Feb. 16th. We will continue to work at school on the final product, but most likely some work will have to be done the weekend before it is due. Mrs. Hurt will continue to work on literary elements.

Math

In math we are working on area and perimeter. We are reviewing how to count the squares, and next we'll work with the formula for finding area ($A=l \times w$). There will be a quiz on these two math skills on Thursday, 2-2. We began our practice of completing an extended response in math (P.O.W. = Problem of the Week). We did one together in class today so students have a model in their folder. We'll try to start one in class together, but it should be completed by Friday. Basic facts: $\div 12$.

This Week at a Glance

Science...
Machines in Motion

Social Studies...
Midwest Research

In the Spotlight...
Character Counts—Caring

Writing...
Expository Writing-Conclusion Paragraph

Important Dates...
Wed., 2-1: Famous Person Contributions Paragraph Due
Fri., 2-3: WEAR RED!
Teacher In-service
Early Dismissal at 11:45 A.M.

Notes:

The famous person contributions paragraph is due Wednesday, 2-1. On that same day, the students will come home with a model and the scoring sheet for the conclusion paragraph. As always, thanks for your help and support with this project! There was a change from the calendar for Character Counts this month. We will be doing caring and wearing RED (not orange) since caring fits so nicely with Valentine's Day.



MRS. STEFANI'S CLASSES

Reading

Making inferences will continue to be a focus of our shared reading time this week. We will use *Peppe the Lamplighter* as a mentor text to help us make inferences and understand a character. During writing time when we aren't modeling for the famous person report, the students will write fractured fairy tales. They will map out their ideas on a graphic organizer and create a first copy. One of the required "fractures" will be to write the tale from a different point of view. Also, each week we have class meetings to discuss both reading topics and any other topics that the students suggest. There is a suggestion box set up in the room where they can submit any discussion topic ideas. Due to the early dismissal on Friday, the vocabu-

Math

Last week the students used compasses to copy line segments. Adjacent and vertical angles were also introduced. This week we will explore geometric properties of polygons. We will play a game called, "Polygon Capture" in order for the students to practice identifying types of angles, parallel sides, etc. Next Thursday I will test the students on Unit 3. They will be asked to measure angles using a protractor. They will also need to know the meanings of acute, right, obtuse, adjacent, straight and reflex angles. They will be asked to draw an equilateral, isosceles and scalene triangle using our geometry templates. The terms polygon, quadrangle, congruent and parallel will also appear on the test.