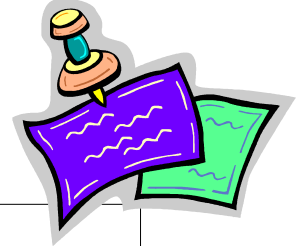


KEEPING IN TOUCH

December 5, 2011



Week in Review

MS. MCTIGHE'S CLASSES

Reading

Now that we have finished *The Indian in the Cupboard*, we will work on learning how to do a written response to a book we read. A response journal/book review will be due on Thursday, 12-8. We'll begin our mystery novel, *Howliday Inn*, by James Howe today. Students will be working on worksheets for several of the chapters so they will concentrate on what makes up a mystery book. They'll be looking at personalities, evidence, motives, and clues. The characters in this book are a lot of fun so I think students will enjoy this novel. We'll start *The Eleventh Hour*, too, by Graeme Base. This has been a favorite book to work on in the past. It is filled with challenging clues and puzzles to work out in order to figure out who did the crime. We'll do this in class. The bibliography and Early Years for the famous person report is due 12-6, and Adult Years is due 12-9. The WordMasters competition is this Wed., 12-7. A fictional mystery is due 12-15.

Math

We will be working on estimating sums and differences this week as well as learning how to draw a picture and write an equation in problem solving. We completed the task of choosing what we want to order for the School Store that we will be running. They made some good choices! Now we will begin creating advertising for our inventory. We'll work on it at school and then finish it at home. We'll also start working on a song or creative way to persuade other fourth graders to buy at our School Store. We will go back to practicing how to make change since this is a skill we will need. Basic facts this week: x8.

This Week at a Glance

Science...
Machines in Motion

Social Studies...
Illinois Research
Midwest Region

In the Spotlight...
Jack N. and Thomas

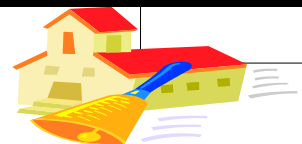
Writing...
Lincoln Research & Research Packet Completion
Secret Pen Pal Letters

Important Dates...
Tues., Dec. 6th: Midwest States and Capitals Quiz (Mrs. Stefani)
Wed., Dec. 7th: Midwest States and Capitals Quiz (Ms. McTighe)
Thurs., Dec. 8th, 2:00 & 7:00:
3rd Grade Music Program with the 4th and 5th Grade Chorus

Notes:

The first 2 checkpoints for the Famous Person Report are this week. Students need to bring these items:

- Completed Bibliography (12-6)
- Fill in packet: Early Life (12-6)
- Fill in packet: Adult Years (12-9)



MRS. STEFANI'S CLASSES

Reading

We will continue to read Howliday Inn this week and work on predicting, questioning and completing the activity packets. So far the students have met several of the lively characters and are learning more about each one. We are asking the students to visualize as they read to imagine what these characters and Chateau Bow-Wow look like. When students evoke images that relate to the text, it deepens their comprehension. In writing, the students will be creating anonymous letters to their secret pen pals giving clues about their identity. These letters will be delivered Friday. Your child will also receive a letter on Friday and then the search begins! Again, as a reminder, there will be no spelling

Math

The Unit 10 Test will be given in class on Thursday. The students will be asked to solve pan balance problems and write algebraic expressions. They will also have to complete a table and graph and interpret the results. Please have the kids review SRB pages 216-219, 228-229 and 233-234 to help study for this test.

We will spend time in class continuing to practice the steps in algebra. Your children know the steps to be:

1. Collecting
2. Isolating
3. Just one x