

September 27, 2010

The NEWS From MS. White's 3rd Grade



Special points
of interest:

- > *Math homework this week! It will come home Thursday evening. Work on this worksheet over MONEY with your child.*
- > *SIGN THE TIGER FOLDER FORM!!!*

TIGER Folder

Let's try this again! This week in the Tiger Folder you will find a sheet for the guardian signature. Please let me know what you saw in the Tiger Folder (just a brief list: spelling test, math test, reading papers, handwriting, etc.) along with signing and dating the form. Let me know of any questions, comments or concerns.

This is also a great place to leave your child a compliment for them to start their week by reading. Letting them know you care and are involved with what they do at school will be a great encourager to them to keep doing their best work.

This week's Homework

Monday: Spelling words come home— practice!

Thursday: Spelling worksheet for ABC order is due.

Friday: Spelling Test!
Math Homework over money is due.

Every night: Read at least 30 minutes with your child.

Reading/Language Arts

The Theme Test for The Ballad of Mulan will be taken on Monday, September 27. Students worked on making inferences and general comprehension skills during this story. We had great discussions about the Great Wall of China. This week we will begin our story called Lost and Found. Our comprehension skill for this story is sequencing events. Next week in the newsletter I will have tips for working with your child at home on the three reading skills we focused on so far this year: cause/effect, inferences and sequencing events.

Remember to read each evening with your child! They will develop a life long love of reading if you read with them daily.

Math

As we continue our work in Chapter 2 for math we are working on rounding to the tens and hundreds places. Counting money is a skill we are focusing on this week. Practice at home with real coins to see if your child can recall how to correctly count money. On Thursday night a worksheet will come home for students complete with a parent/guardian. Writing money is another area we will work hard on this week. Students are struggling to remember that money is written with a dollar sign and decimal point. Like this: \$5.76 or \$234.87 or \$.78

Social Studies

Mrs. Cottrell

Science

Mrs. Dawson

Last week was “seed week” and the lessons about seeds were very interesting and informative. We predict which seeds would germinate first out of pinto bean, sunflower, radish, and corn. Radish seeds were the ones to germinate first. We also soaked lima bean seeds overnight so we could see the seed coat, the young plant inside and the seed leaf that provides food for the young plant. WOW!

This week we will finish up the chapter by discussing plant fossils. We will also talk about how are plants from the past like today’s plants. We will do a chapter review on Wednesday with a chapter 1 test on Thursday. There will also be a vocabulary quiz. If there isn’t time for the quiz on Thursday we will take the quiz Friday. The children are welcome to take their books and folders home any time as long as they bring them back the very next day.

Last we learned four vocabulary words that are critical to understanding this chapter: scale, compass rose, cardinal directions, and intermediate directions. We also learned where the cardinal and intermediate directions are in our classroom. The remainder of the week was spent practicing how to use a scale to measure the distance between Bloomington and various communities in the United States and a compass rose to determine the direction we would have to travel to go to other communities from ours.

This week we will continue using a scale and compass rose to measure the distance and direction to three communities in the United States. We will also read the story, The Scrambled States of America. This story will accompany an activity where students locate our state and then listen to the cardinal or intermediate directions I give them to locate another state in our country.

Writer’s Workshop

Ms. White

On Friday students wrote the draft for their Fall Acrostic Poems. These pieces of writing will be on display at McDonalds and on our bulletin boards for Parent-Teacher conferences in October. During their learning center time in the computer lab, students will be typing and illustrating their poems. The ideas the students had were creative and I know these are going to look great!

This week students will be working on a set of worksheets about topic sentences. They will do games to further explore nouns and verbs. Some vocabulary words they will learn for sentence structure are subject and predicate. The students have been working on complete sentences and we will introduce the terms for the parts of the sentence this week.

