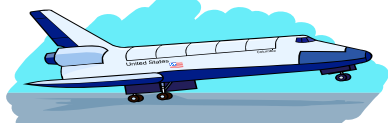


Columbia Elementary

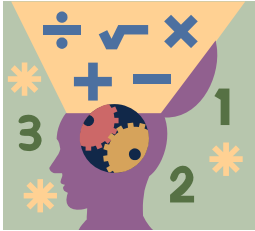
4th Grade

September Newsletter



4th Grade Team

Mrs. Barlowe
Ms. Clem
Mr. Crisona
Mrs. Ebert-Jones
Mrs. Okolue
Ms. Tarver
Mrs. Sealey



Math

In the month of September, 4th grade will be finishing up work with polygons and circles. We will then begin our unit about number sense. The students will review place value and addition and subtraction of multi digit numbers. Please be sure to use the information in the family letter that your teacher sends home at the beginning of every unit to check your child's homework and get ideas for activities to reinforce the concepts being taught in the classroom.

Upcoming Events:

- Sept 1 Labor Day Holiday
- Sept 16 Open House for grades K-2 and Bates
- Sept 18 Open House for grades 3-5 and Sory
- Sept 23 SAC Meeting
- Sept 24 Progress Reports go home
- Oct 17 Make-up for Bad Weather
- Oct 22 Parent Conference Night
- Oct 23 End 1st grading period (47 days)
- Oct 24 Make-up for Bad Weather
- Oct 29 Report Cards sent home

Tentatively Scheduled:

Reading

In September, 4th grade students will be focusing on the theme of "Journeys". The first journey that they will take is to the Iditarod Race in Alaska. They will experience ten days of cold, heartache, and triumph with the dogs and their mushers. Next, they will journey to Japan to reminisce with a man about his grandfather and his life during the time of World War II. The third selection in the Reading Anthology brings us to the fateful tale of the Titanic. The students will follow the timeline of events as the "unsinkable ship" disappears into the Atlantic Ocean. Finally, they will read a historical fiction excerpt that details the journey of a blind woman and her family by train into the wilderness to claim a homestead that the government has given to settlers who were willing to farm it. In each story this month, there will be challenges for the characters to overcome and also examples of great strength and determination.



Social Studies

Unit 1 will include:

- Chapter 1: Florida: Land, Water and Sun
- Chapter 2: The regions of Florida

Unit Overview: Florida is a land rich in geographical beauty with many bodies of water, abundant sunshine, and a warm climate. It has distinct physical regions, a fast growing population, and a rich supply of natural resources.

Tip for Parents:



Please remember to check and sign your child's planner each night.

Science Corner



Vocabulary

Water cycle Evaporation Condensation Dew
Precipitation Drought Runoff Watershed
Reservoirs Groundwater Water table
standing water Permeable Artesian well
Water vapor meteorologist Wind vane

Focus: water cycle, scientific studies and the influences, scientific processes to obtain answers

Questions to think about: What happens to the salt in the ocean when water evaporates?

If our water supply is affected by a drought, what are three ways to obtain water?

Websites for resources:

<http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/kids/>

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/index.html>

Writing

The fourth grade is a very important year in terms of writing. The students will be taking the FCAT Writes Essay test. The two types of writing we will be working on this year in order to prepare the students for the test will be narrative writing (stories) and expository writing (explaining). The students will review the writing process and use it on a daily basis in order to strengthen their writing skills.

Field Trips:

If you are interested in being a chaperone on our field trips, please let your child's teacher know by sending in a note. We are scheduled to go to St. Augustine tentatively on November 7th. You must be an approved registered ADDitions member to chaperone field trips. A new ADDitions form must be filled out each school year.

Please make sure you have visited the following website to become a registered addition:

<http://www.ocps.net/es/cr/resources/Pages/ADDitions.aspx>