



4th GRADE NEWS



What are we learning this month?

In Reading...

We will be taking a deeper look into different types of texts. Students will be practicing reading a variety of texts in preparation for the upcoming ELA exam. We will be looking at fiction and nonfiction stories, informational texts, technical "how-to" texts, myths, legends, folktales, poems, and more! We are using read alouds and the Ready ELA books to discover the elements of these various texts. Please make sure your 4th graders are taking the time to read carefully, underline important information, and annotate sections to help them answer the comprehension questions that follow. Ask your 4th graders what they are reading about!

In Writing...

The 4th graders will continue to practice writing literary essays. Students will be analyzing characters and focusing on themes in stories.

We will also be reading passages and writing short responses based on those passages. To further enrich our writing unit, the 4th graders will be reading two different passages and writing essays comparing the two. We are also spending time writing both short and extended response answers in preparation for the ELA exam at the end of the month. Students are given credit for an answer that makes sense, and is supported with 2-3 details and examples from the text.

In Math...

The 4th graders will continue the measurement and geometry unit. Students will learn the difference between acute, obtuse, and right angles, as well as measure and build angles. We will also study symmetry and area.

We will then begin our fractions unit and learn how to identify fractional parts of a whole. Students will use addition, multiplication, and division knowledge to represent fractions. We will also explore fractions of a whole and fractions of a group. Concepts in this unit to study and practice include equivalent fractions, comparing fractions, using a double number line to represent fractions, improper fractions and mixed numbers.

In Social Studies...

We will be learning about Colonial America. In this unit, students will read stories from the Colonial time period and compare and contrast lifestyles and types of daily life activities in the New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern colonies. We will discuss the physical geography, social life, and economics. Students will also study how different groups of people experienced life in colonial America. Any projects will be done by individual classes.

In Science...

The fourth grade scientists will continue to explore the transfer of energy. We have tested magnetism and will be making electrical testers, which will help us sort objects made of various materials. These electrical testers will allow the students to classify objects into conductors (materials that allow the flow of electricity) and insulators (materials that do not allow the flow of electricity). Looking ahead, we will be combining electricity and magnetism to make our own electromagnets. At home, many students may want to try some of the activities we have done in class, but you may want to review your home safety rules for electricity and magnetism as we do in class:

- Never put any object other than a certified plug into wall sockets or outlets.
- Do not open the case of an electrical appliance that is plugged in.
- Do not bring magnets near computers, videotapes, cell phones, or audio recordings.

In Art...

In March, fourth grade artists will practice making a person in a movement pose. They will practice with modeling clay using coils and balls. Their final assignment will be remaking the person out of air-dry clay and painting it.

In Gym...

Tennis Ball Activities & Manipulatives- Refining our coordination and gross motor skills during fun & dynamic activities

Upcoming Dates & Important Events

- ★ March 5th - Half day, Dismissal at 11:40am for Parent Teacher Conferences
- ★ Saturday Test Prep - March 7, March 14, March 21, March 28
- ★ ELA State Exam - March 25th and March 26th

