



Contact Me

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September 25-29, 2017

Important Reminders

- We are having a very difficult time following directions, doing homework correctly, and studying for quizzes. Please help your child be the best 4th grader he/she can be. THANKS!
- 1st popcorn day - Friday, October 6
- Spirit Week - October 9-13 (Mon: PJ, Tues: Neon, Wed: Hair/Hat, Thurs: Orange, Fri: Oxford)
- Early Release Day - Friday, October 13 @ 12:15
- Picture Retakes - Thursday, October 26
- October Reading Log - due Tuesday, October 31
- Coming soon...Halloween party information letter
- I am no longer checking planners. Therefore, please remember that it is your child's responsibility to record all homework in his/her planner. Thanks for all your help!
- Library books - due Tuesdays (students can renew if they want)
- Be sure to check out www.missrosenthal.com for class updates



Reading Workshop - We continued our first reading workshop unit titled, Interpreting Characters. This week, readers continued to read intensely by retelling, envisioning, and developing ideas about characters. They also learned how partners can help advance their reading work. We read a Scholastic News magazine as a whole class. These will soon count as part of their comprehension reading grade. **Students also received the October Reading Log. I explained how to fill out the log and my expectations for this homework. Remember, students should read at least 20 minutes each night and record it on the log. If you have any questions about the reading homework, including how to find levels, please feel free to email me. Thanks so much for having book talks with your child and encouraging him/her to read nightly. The only way to become a better reader is to read! The log should stay in the homework pocket of the traveling folder because we will be discussing our home reading habits in class during workshop.**

Writing Workshop - We began a new fiction writing workshop unit this week. Students will write fiction stories. We read many mentor texts and discussed what they noticed in those books that we can apply and use in our own fiction writing. We practiced grammar. Be sure to look review the grammar so that students can apply it to their own writing. Please keep the grammar packet in the reading/writing pocket of the traveling folder.

Math - We finished the first unit, which is all about place value and multi-digit addition and subtraction. This week we reviewed multi-digit addition and subtraction and story problems. They took a quick quiz and took the unit test on Thursday. Please remember that math homework is due the following day and it is checked in class together. Students usually complete the "remembering" side in class and then they complete the "homework" side at home. **PLEASE check your child's math homework each night.** All of the papers for the entire unit stay in the math pocket. The only homework is what is placed in the homework pocket and written in the planner. **Students must practice addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts at home for a few minutes each night.** We are having timed quizzes on the facts each week. It is essential that students know the basic facts (+ - x) very quickly so that they can master more difficult math concepts. We will start the second unit next week which is about double-digit multiplication!

Word Work - We started word study this week. There are three word work groups (yellow, green, and blue) which are based on the students' spelling level. Ask your child about cutting the sort, writing the sort, and doing a task card. All work is done in class, but each student has a quarter sheet of paper with a list of their words to **practice at home.** Word work assessments will be every other Friday (a two week cycle). Therefore, we will take the assessment next Friday, October 6. Students are expected to know the patterns, how to spell the words, and where the words belong. New words using the patterns will also be given on the biweekly assessments. We continued high frequency word (HFW) assessments this week. Please have your child keep the high frequency word packet in the spelling pocket. Each Monday we will write the test date next to the words. This week they had the assessment on words #11-15. I am noticing that students are still struggling with memorizing the high frequency words. **It is crucial that these words are studied for a few minutes a night to ensure correct spelling when they are writing everyday.** Thank you so much for all of your help with the HFW! If your child gets 3 or more HFW wrong, he/she will have homework the following week.

Social Studies - Mrs. Waffenschmidt was busy again this week. We traveled to the Eiffel Tower in Paris France with her. Once again, they were quite enthusiastic to fill out their own passport and receive a stamp. Ask your child to show you his/her passport in the traveling folder. We also continued to discuss having a "growth mindset" by looking at various quotations and watching another class Dojo video. The kids love those videos!

Science - The students began the "Energy and Waves" unit by inquiring and becoming knowledgeable about energy. Please have your child teach his/her science journal pages to you each night.

Unit of Inquiry - We finished our first Unit of Inquiry, which is titled Who Am I? The unit focuses on our central idea: Our surroundings and experiences shape who we are. This week they created a silhouette with pictures that describe who we are. We also reflected on the entire unit. Check out the summative assessment comics in the hallway. They did an amazing job! We focused on the IB Learner Profile Attribute caring this week. After reading books and learning about this word, the students created a paper quilt. Ask your child about all of the IB quilts we will make this year. Be sure to look for the quilts in the hallway.

IB

Learner Profile

CARING

We show empathy, compassion and respect.
We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.