

4th Grade News 11-1-19

What We're Learning:

Reading: In reading we've been learning about how our characters may act one way in one setting or relationship, and another way in a different setting or relationship. We have found evidence of how our characters are complex in our read aloud and own novels. We've also taken some time to look beyond characters and have studied different story elements, such as setting, plot, and recurring symbols.

Writing: We have started studying opinion writing this week. Students had an on-demand performance assessment and were given 45 minutes to brainstorm and draft up an opinion essay. We've looked also at published pieces of work to determine the type of techniques authors use when writing an opinion piece. We have also worked on defining new vocabulary such as claim, evidence, reason, and counterclaim.

Math: The module 2 pre-assessment has been completed and will come home shortly. We've started module 3 with lessons on area and perimeter of rectangles. Students have also used their prior knowledge around place value to help them multiply single-digit numbers by a two- and three-digit multiple of ten. The expectation is that students can show their work using a place value chart and their knowledge of the base ten system.

Social Studies/Science: Our class has wrapped up our first unit on Washington's earliest people. We concluded our studies by conducting some research on the causes and effects that geography and climate had on life for both the Coastal and Plateau Native Americans. In science, we started our next unit on matter. Thus far, we've learned about the three main forms of matter and some of the properties of each. We had fun conducting our first investigation by describing the properties of unknown materials in balloons.

In Other News:

Volunteering: The November volunteer calendar is up! I am excited to let you know that if you've been cleared by the Washington State Patrol, you can now sign up to volunteer in class! This year I'm using SignUp.com to organize our upcoming volunteer spots. If you decide to volunteer, it would be helpful if you could sign up with at least 24 hours notice so I can ensure I have something prepared for your visit. Thank you for your time!

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1) Click this link to see our SignUp on SignUp.com:

<https://signup.com/go/OxENoNt>

2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.

3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com.

Note: SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

Room Parent/Grandparent: If you have any interest in planning and organizing seasonal classroom parties with other parents/grandparents, please let me know! Being at new district/school/grade level leaves me very little time to coordinate these types of events and they may not happen without your help. Thanks for your consideration!

Conferences: Conference scheduling is now open for our **student-led** conferences on December 4th and 5th. Please sign up through Family Access. I have also attached directions to the files section of my website. If you need specific accommodations, please let me know.

Calendar of Events: Please refer to my website's homepage, Apollo Rocket E-News, or the Apollo PTA's website for up-to-date information on upcoming events!