**Mr. Vieira’s Classroom News and Notes**

**Week of October 20 - 24, 2014**

Hello Third Grade Families,

My apologies for missing you all last week in a newsletter, life caught up with me. This may happen from time to time, and want you to know that should you have any questions or need clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact me at school or email. I will always do my best to make sure you are informed about what is happening in class.

The weather changing, and students are reminded wear layers. At times, it can be very warm in class or cool. Likewise, we want to make sure students are warm and dry at recess. Writing names in jackets and sweatshirts is always a good idea as these items get left on the playground regularly. If you need a jacket for your child, please contact me. Our school community has resources to help.

**Fall Goal Setting Conferences** – Conferences are on 10/29 (after school) and 10/30 (all day)

Confirmations (bright pink) were sent home last week. If you have not returned your confirmation, I would appreciate it as soon as possible. I will send a reminder home in the Wednesday Weekly.

**Our Learning:**

We are in the middle of our unit of inquiry, *Where We are in Place and Time*. Students will investigate how places (locations) around the world are alike and different. They will explore this central idea through three lines of inquiry:

* Structures of globes and maps
* Tools and systems to find places
* Relationships between places on Earth

In math, students will begin to wrap up unit two. We have practiced using a variety of strategies and algorithms for adding and subtracting with whole number within the 1,000s place:

* Standard Algorithm (method)
* Partial Sums Algorithm (method)
* Rounding and Estimating (ballpark estimate)

**Students will take the unit two assessment on Thursday and Friday.**

In reading, we are using non-fiction text features to help us better understand informational text. Next week, we will be reading a biography, Ellen Ochoa (former space astronaut), and using our knowledge find main ideas and supporting details under each heading.

In writing, students are independently writing an informational essay about an important person in their life. They were asked to think of the people in their life and in their communities (school, family, team, etc.). Then, choose one person in their life that has made a positive difference in their life. They will explain and describe with three reasons why that person is important to them. Students will move from through the writing process: prewrite, draft, revised draft, edited draft, and published, by Friday, October 24.

**Specials for the Week:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday - D** | **Tuesday - E** | **Wednesday - F** | **Thursday - A** | **Friday - B** |
| Music with Ms. Crafton | Library | Technology | PE with Mr. Pitner | Music with Ms. Singleton |

**Homework for the Week** (see website for updates, vieiramckinley.weebly.com)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday - D** | **Tuesday - E** | **Wednesday - F** | **Thursday - A** |
| 1. **Reading -** 20 to 30 minutes in a good fit book, record on reading log
2. **Language/Spelling**

**\*Practice Fact Triangles** | 1. **Reading -** 20 to 30 minutes in a good fit book, record on reading log
2. **Math –** Subtraction

**\*Practice Fact Triangles** | 1. **Reading** - 20 to 30 minutes in a good fit book, record on reading log
2. **Language/Spelling**

**\*Practice Fact Triangles** | 1. **Reading** - 20 to 30 minutes in a good fit book, record on reading log
2. **Math** – Review for Unit Two Assessment

**\*Practice Fact Triangles** |

For reading homework, students be asked to complete one Reading Response Question any night of the week and turn it in on Thursday attached to their completed Reading Log. Students will bring their signed Reading Log **each day**. I will be checking it during our Morning Routine.

There will be Spelling and Language homework again this week. The goal is to get students using proper grammar and spelling in their writing. Students will be asked to practice and demonstrate their learning on Thursday in a quiz.

**Literacy Learning Targets to Support Homework:**

* + Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
	+ Produce simple, compound, and complex sentences.
	+ Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Quick reminder – There will be no school on Friday, October 31, 2014.

Sincerely,

Mr. Vieira

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