

Fourth Grade News

October, 2009



Science

Every child created a briefcase Weather Station they will use each day to help them learn the responsibilities of a meteorologist. They have learned about and used weather instruments to help them predict the weather. A weather chart will be kept for two weeks, and then the results will be graphed and displayed.

Upcoming Events

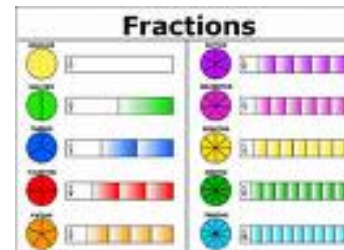
Parent/Teacher Conferences - Thursday, Oct. 8, 2009

Professional Development Day - No School Monday, Oct. 12, 2009



Language Arts

The students have been doing a great job working cooperatively in centers. We just completed our unit on "Storm Chasers," which went along with the weather unit in science. The readers' theater portion of centers last week worked well. Learning parts from a script increases fluency and expression. The students also are working with the "Storyworks" magazine, which is full of good stories and grammar skills. Please continue to have your child read twenty minutes a night for enjoyment!



Math

We are beginning our exploration of fractions by using manipulatives. You can have some interesting discussions on fractions at home. When you are cooking or baking, involve your child in comparing different fractions or have them help you double a recipe using fractions.

Daily practice of addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts would be helpful to your student.

Art

Fourth grade art students are sharpening their drawing skills this month. First, they will draw their shoe from observation. For the next assignment, they will turn the shoe into another object (i.e. space station, building, machine, etc.)

Music

Fourth grade will sing in Spanish. We are learning the famous song, "La Cucaracha." We will test their skills on s, l, -drn and -sl.

Social Studies

During the first nine weeks the students reviewed map and globe skills, as well as focused their attention on Citizenship. September 17 was National Citizenship Day, and we celebrated by creating projects related to the six pillars of good character. Check out the showcase in the main hallway to view some of the projects.

*'Shoot
for the
moon.
Even if
you miss
it you
will
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amongst
the
stars.'
Les
Brown*

Physical Education

In September, we began by working on Initiative Activities – activities that promote teamwork, communication, and cooperation. Included were Planet Pass and Mission Impossible. Students also ran their fall fitness run to measure their level of fitness. This run will be repeated in the spring to evaluate fitness improvement. During September we also worked extensively with the jump bands. Students learned two different rhythmical steps and performed them as a team for their classmates.

In October, basketball skills will be the focus. The fundamentals of passing, dribbling, and shooting will be the primary focus. Low organizational games using these skills will be played.

