



December 12, 2014

Ms. Hahn's Classroom Newsletter

Math

This week the students continued to learn about multiplication. They used the skip counting books that were made earlier to help solve math problems. The students learned that skip counting by multiples of 10 is easy to do if you know the other multiples. You can help your child practice skip counting by numbers such as 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9.

Don't forget to study math facts often! Any completed rocket math papers that we sent home, can be kept at home.

Writing

The last few weeks the students focused on sentence fluency. This week they learned to include strong verbs in their writing. They completed a short assignment that helped them recognize the strong verbs.

On Wednesday the students learned about legends. All children completed a story map for a legend they made up. The story map was used later in the week to write the legend. Next week the students will be finalizing their legends.

Earthkeepers

The final project is due Monday, December 15th. I will be awarding keys to students who completed the project.

Reading

Reading groups continued this week. Many groups got to read a short play in their books. They practiced reading with expression.

The whole class lesson was on the definition of folktales, fairy tales, myths, and fables. They also learned that when you recount a story, you need to include the following information: someone, wanted, but, so, then.

Social Studies

This past week we discussed the difference between Woodland and Plains Indians. They learned that Plains Indians used the buffalo for many different things like the Woodland Indians used the deer. Next week we will learn more about the Plains Indian lifestyle before the 1600's.

Science

This week the students started to learn about inherited traits of plants and animals. The students looked closely at four varieties of apples to observe and record the differences. Discussion of why the apples were different followed our lesson. The highlight of the lesson was making applesauce from the apples they cut apart. The next day the students learned that animals are born with some traits and also learn how to do different things. They had animal trait cards that were sorted into different categories.

Short Volunteer Survey

Please fill out this short volunteer survey. https://docs.google.com/a/pccharterschool.org/forms/d/1jZ6llSPWT4yDiJ0lWldCXMoK1A9H4YRBo2jWkjJ79Ok/viewform?usp=send_form

Illness

Please remember to keep your child home if he/she has a fever. Your child must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.

Big Bluestem Award

Prairie Crossing Charter School is excited to have our 3rd and 4th graders participate in the The Bluestem Award program (<http://www.islma.org/Bluestem.htm>) this year. It is designed to get students reading longer chapter books. There are 20 age-appropriate titles on the Bluestem list. To participate, students are read (or have read to them) a minimum of 4 of these books. At the end of February students who have completed a minimum of 4 books get to vote on their favorite one! We will tally the votes to see the PCCS Bluestem book favorite, then enter the votes for the official state selection of the Bluestem Award 2014-15. It will be fun to see if our pick is the state pick!

Please encourage your child(ren) to get excited about reading and voting! Winter break is a perfect time to curl up and read one or more of these. Many titles will be available in our classroom. Your local libraries stock extra copies of the Bluestem books as well. If you have any questions, please email Elizabeth Conlon at elizabeth.conlon@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, December 17- Early Release

Thursday, December 18- Winter Sing 10:00,
Staff/Student Basketball Game 2:30

Friday, December 19- Social Studies Immersion Day,
Holiday party

December 22 to January 2- Winter Break

School Website

Please check out the new school website. You will find the newsletters and classroom calendars. I have also put a link for reading comprehension questions based on reading levels.

Username: PCCSpent

Password: g0Hawks*1415

Social Studies Immersion Day

Friday, December 19th, the third and fourth grade teachers are planning different social studies activities for the students. The classes will be rotating to different activities in the different classrooms. We can use parent volunteers to help with the activities and crafts though out the day. Please email me or my assistant, Mrs. Steinbeck at tsteinbeck@pccharterschool.org, if you can help.

Friday Schedule

Station 1	8:15-9:00
Station 2	9:05-9:50
Snack	9:50-10:10
Station 3	10:15-10:55
Station 4	11:00-11:40
Recess	11:45-12:15
Lunch	12:15-12:45
Dance	1:20-2:05
Party	2:05-3:15