



March 1, 2015

# Ms. Hahn's Classroom Newsletter

## Math

Students reviewed fractions last week and took an assessment. This week we also went over the PARCC practice test. Students will be taking a paper version of the PARCC test starting next week. Many of the questions are multi-step problems. We will work on more story problems next week.

## Writing

Due to an issue with Google Docs the students will not be working on the scooter essays. This past week the students began a mineral research project. Students will be creating a Most Wanted Poster for the mineral they are researching. We finished the research last week and will work on the writing and editing portion of the project next week.

## High Frequency Words

Last week the students took a pre-assessment on the spelling of high frequency words. Your child probably told you they took a test with 100 words. From the pre-assessment the students are given the words they missed to study. These words are written in the assignment notebook. Every week you child will get new words.

## Big Bluestem Award

The students voted for their favorite book this week. In our class Frindle was the most popular. I would like to thank Mrs. Conlon for organizing this activity for the students in third and fourth grade.

## Reading

Students listened to two books by Patricia Polacco in the past weeks. This week we worked on comparing the two books. We will continue to read and compare other Patricia Polacco books.

Reading groups will continue reading about rocks and minerals. We are reading the book slowly so we can really study the non-fiction text.

## Social Studies and Science

This is week the students read about how the pioneers built sod homes in areas with a lot of prairie. They created a model of the sod home. We will continue learning about pioneer lifestyle next week.

In science the class learned about minerals. We began learning how to figure out how to identify minerals. The students did scratch test to figure out the mineral's hardness based on the Mohs Hardness scale. Next week, we will do streak tests on the minerals.

## Google and Computers

Due the issues mentioned in the last newsletter, the class is not allowed on the computers. However, the class will soon be getting different log in information for Google documents. In the next few weeks the computer lab and the Chrome books will be used for PARCC testing. All students 4<sup>th</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade will need a computer for taking the PARCC tests.

## Student Led Conferences

Student led conferences are March 11. You can sign up for student led conferences at <https://lhahnroom20.youcanbook.me/>

If you want an individual conference, this is in addition to student led conferences. Please contact me if you want an individual conference for Thursday, March 12 between 2:00 and 4:00.

## BUTTER BRAIDS ARE BACK!

Because of the popularity of the Butter Braids sale the 8th graders held a few months ago, PCCS is holding a second sale. The process is easy: Click [HERE](#) and download a form. Don't know what Butter Braids are? Butter Braids are a large pastry that are filled with fruit, chocolate, cinnamon or cream cheese. They come frozen and require minimal prep to bake and eat! There are many flavors to choose from and they make a wonderful addition to a weekend breakfast or brunch. Butter Braids are not found in stores, so this is your chance to stock up! Completed orders include your form with your name and order clearly marked, along with your check, made out to PCCS. Orders are due by Thursday, March 19. The Butter Braids will be delivered on Monday, March 30th in the afternoon. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go toward the 8th Grade Virginia Trip; the more you buy, the more we will be able to help offset some of the costs for the students. Please email Mr. Habel with any questions. Thanks for supporting our students!

## Classroom Wish List

1. Boxes of Tissues
2. 24 Folders with prongs (any color)

## Upcoming Events

March 3- Early Release

March 6- My Guy and I Sock Hop

March 11- Early Release, Student Led Conferences

March 12- Early Release, Parent Conferences

March 13- No School Teacher In-service

## A Kid in Every Park

Please check out this website

<http://www.nationalparks.org/ook/every-kid-in-a-park> . Students in fourth grade next year can get a pass to get into parks free. Check out the great outdoors with your child.

## PARCC Update

The third graders will be taking the PARCC test with paper and pencil this school year. Testing will begin in next week. Most test should be done by 10:00 AM.

Parent volunteers are not allowed in the room during the test. I believe students will do better on the test if they had enough sleep and ate a good breakfast.

## Testing Dates and Times

March 3- 8:15 AM

March 6- 8:15 AM

March 10- 8:15 AM

March 16- 8:15 AM

March 17- 8:15 AM