



Mrs. W's Class Newsletter 10.1.08

Language Arts

- Key Strategy: Identifying character traits based on actions
- context repetition
- capitalizing proper nouns
- Nouns, adjectives, and verbs
- Vocabulary development
- Using descriptive language
- Writing: students wrote a story describing two characters that were opposites
- Reading group-all story elements, context clues, vocabulary

Math

- Estimating sums
- Deciding whether to give exact answers or estimations
- Regrouping
- Problem Solving

Unit

- Last week, our focus was on the scientific method....stating the problem formulating your hypothesis, collecting and interpreting data and stating conclusions

Computer Lab

- Type to Learn

Notes/Reminders

- Students really enjoyed the PTA critter show! Thank you to the PTA!
- October 6th-book fair begins
- October 10th-movie day ([information in this week's folder](#))
- October 13-17th-fall break
- As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks for your help and support and have a wonderful week!

Quote of the Week:

"Life is too short to spend your precious time trying to convince a person who wants to live in gloom and doom otherwise. Give lifting that person your best shot, but don't hang around long enough for his or her bad attitude to pull you down. Instead, surround yourself with optimistic people."

~Zig Ziglar

HOMWORK

Our class will have a math homework sheet to complete each night. These practice sheets are very important in that they reinforce the skills that were taught on that particular day. We will not have math homework on Fridays.

Week of September 29, 2008

Math

*Please remember that these pages are subject to change...sometimes we do two lessons, which makes the pages change...I will try to update the changes, but the students will also write it down in their planners.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Math Workbook Page 20 Problems 1-10	Math Workbook Page 21 Problems 1-10	Math Workbook Page 22 All Problems	Math Workbook Page 23 Problems 1-10	No Math Hw

Students will also be assigned reading group homework two to three times per week. It is very important that they do this homework because small group instruction is a huge part of our language arts block.

Students will also have spelling homework throughout the week. Once again, this practice reinforces what we are doing during the day.

Spelling Words

shall, dress, south, shaded, cliff, truth, own, gain, away, round, crow, beak, feel, flew, loaf, feathers, sniff, stream, throne, whether

The test will be Friday, October 3, 2008.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are Literacy Work Stations?

Literacy Work Stations are activities that reinforce the concepts that we are learning throughout the week. Students are responsible for completing the assignments during class while I have students in small reading groups. They will be given a weekly grade for their work.

Does My Child Have Homework Every Night?

Your child will have math homework every night except for Friday. Students are encouraged to study the spelling words that were missed on the pre-test (given on Monday) nightly as well. Students will also be required to read their assigned reading group book each night. Other homework will be given as needed.

Can I eat Lunch With My Child?

Absolutely! Their lunch time is scheduled from 10:55-11:25. You may wait for your student at the door of the lunch room.

Is it Okay to Bring in a Special Treat on my Child's Birthday?

Yes! Please send in a note the day before to let me know that you will be coming.

If My Child is a Biker or Walker Can I Pick Them Up Outside?

For security reasons, you must sign your child out at the office. You are more than welcome to stand with your child until they cross the street.

What Classroom Parties Does Ft. Rucker Elementary Allow Classes to Have?

We are allowed to have a Christmas Party, a Valentine's Party and an end of the year party.

What is Unit?

Unit studies consist of science, social studies and health. Some weeks we will study science, others health and social studies.

When Do You Assess Students?

Students will be assessed on Fridays of each week for spelling, daily oral language, reading and unit. Math assessments will fall on the days in which we complete the previous chapter (if the students are ready). I will give you advance notice of all math as well as the performance based assessments that we complete throughout the year.

What is my responsibility regarding my student's planner?

Please review your student's homework each night, then sign the planner under the day on which the homework was assigned. Students are required, as part of their morning work, to fill in the calendar with the day's homework.

How Do You Communicate with Parents?

I welcome communication from parents. I firmly believe in a strong home/school connection. Please email or call with any questions/concerns that you may have regarding your child. I also send home a newsletter each week in your child's Wednesday folder as well as keep this web site updated.

What is Your Discipline Plan?

My classroom rules are the same as the school wide rules. For making poor classroom choices my plan is as follows:

- First Time-Warning
- Second Time-Silent Lunch
- Third Time-No Recess
- Fourth Time-Note/Call Home to Parents
- Fifth Time-Office Referral

*For extremely disruptive behavior the student may skip all of the steps and be sent directly to the office.

Class Schedule

From-To	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:45-8:00	Roll, Lunch Count, Morning Work				
8:00-8:15	DOL	DOL	DOL	DOL	DOL
8:15-10:00	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts
9:15-9:25	Restroom/Water	Restroom/Water	Restroom/Water	Restroom/Water	Restroom/Water
10:00-11:15	Math	Math	Math	Math	Computer Lab 9:30-10:30
11:25-12:00	Lunch/Recess	Lunch/Recess	Lunch/Recess	Lunch/Recess	Lunch/Recess
12:15-1:15	Specials	Specials	Specials	Specials	Specials
1:00-1:45	Unit	Unit	Unit	Unit	Unit
1:45-2:15	World of Lang.	World of Lang.	World of Lang.	World of Lang.	World of Lang.
2:15	Prepare to Dismiss	Prepare to Dismiss	Prepare to Dismiss	Prepare to Dismiss	Prepare to Dismiss
2:30	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home

Favorite Class Web Sites

This site has tons of skills disguised in the form of games!

<http://classroom.jc-schools.net/basic/>

This site has loads of fun/educational games!

<http://www.funbrain.com>

National Geographic for Kids

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/>

Lots of math games on this site!

<http://www.aplusmath.com>

This site is a fantastic educational video site.

<http://www.brainpop.com>

This site has wonderful educational crafts and activities.

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com>

This site is a reading workshop site and is a fantastic site to practice new skills. Just click on Kid's Corner.

<http://www.manatee.k12.fl.us/sites/elementary/palmasola/rcompindex.htm>

This is a great site that offers tips for parents when reading with children, tips on choosing books and motivating your child to read.

<http://www.nif.org/parents/tips/default.aspx>

Lots of educational information and games

www.kids.gov

Lots of learning, fun and games!

<http://www.seussville.com>

Math Magician-Great practice on math facts!

<http://www.oswego.org/ocsd-web/games/Mathmagician/cathymath.html>