

Third Grade Newsletter - Thursday, November 14th

REMINDERS:

Thank you for returning your completed "Thankful Feather." These are on display in the hallway. The kids were so excited to see the bulletin boards revealed on Tuesday. It is so heartwarming to see the joy in your child's face when he/she saw the feather you created for him/her.

As we enter the cold/flu season, we wanted to send a reminder that we all strive to keep our students healthy while they are at school. We stress washing our hands, covering our mouths when coughing/sneezing and using tissues. Please keep your child home if he/she has a fever. This will help prevent the spread of further illness in our classrooms._

Unicycles: Third grade will be completing a unicycles unit in PE from November 14th - November 25th. Kids will need to bring a bicycle helmet the days they have specials for PE during the unit. Your child is welcome to keep their helmet at school or they can bring it each time they have PE. If your child is in need of a helmet for the unit please let your child's teacher know and Mrs. Keyworth will find one for your child to borrow. As a reminder, kids will not be able to call home if they left their helmet at home the morning of PE. We will write it in our planners to remind students to bring helmets when they need to.

Lettuce Be Healthy: Please sign up for an opportunity to help us with our next healthy challenge during the week of Dec. 2nd-6th: "Lettuce Be Healthy!" click on this [link](#) to sign up. This is a time to encourage our kids to increase their vegetable intake during lunch in the cafeteria. We need our wonderful parents to do the job of handing out raffle tickets during lunch time to the students who eat three different vegetables. Drawings are held at the end of each day for prizes. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Samples at kathleens@psdschools.org or Leigh Eucker at leucker@psdschools.org. Thanks for considering to help! ~ Bethke Wellness Committee

IMPORTANT DATES:

Thursday, 11/21 Fourth Grade Music Program 6:30pm

Wed.-Friday, 11/27-11/29 - Thanksgiving Break (No School)

12/23- 1/3 Winter Break (No School)

Monday, 1/6 Teacher Work Day (No School)

Friday, 1/10 Report Cards go home with Middle of the Year Assessment Data

Looking WAY ahead- our CMAS dates will be April 1-3 for ELA and April 7-9 for Math. We please ask you to keep these dates in mind when making appointments!

Academics:

Spelling: Students are encouraged to practice their spelling words every week, at home. We spend about 30 minutes on Fridays learning the pattern for the week, and then it is the responsibility of the students to use the WTW Spelling Menu Activities to practice four activities. This is due back on Thursdays.

Literacy: In grammar, we have started talking about verbs. We will dig into the different types of verbs (action vs. linking verbs), then venture into exploring adjectives and adverbs. The "Sentence Dictations" half sheets coming home each week are your child's assessment to see how they are applying the skills taught in class.

We concluded our novel studies last week and spent time this week creating a book report poster to showcase a few of the main ideas of their novels. Students are sharing these with other novel groups in the class. They were excited to be the expert on their novel!

In writing, students have impressed us with their thoughtful responses as they planned and wrote their Thankful Letters. These will be sent home before Thanksgiving Break. Please ask your child to read his/her letter to you. We spent lots of time enforcing how appreciative we are for our health, family, and education. Students were able to extend their thinking and elaborate on all the nouns they are thankful for.

History: This week we began our study of the 13 colonies. We started this week by focusing on why colonists came to the Americas from Europe. Next, we will be studying and gathering facts on each of the 13 colonies. The students will turn into mini detectives to gather facts and knowledge into their own little "detective notebook". After our study of the colonies, students will be able to "act like a colonist" in our classrooms by making soap to culminate our unit.

Math: We began this week finishing up Topic 5 and discussing and looking for patterns in the multiplication table. Then, we started Topic 6: Connect Area to Multiplication and Addition. Students will develop a deeper understanding of the

concept of area and how area is related to multiplication and addition. You will find the parent letter for topic 6, with suggestions on how to help your child at home, at the bottom of this newsletter.

Please remember, homework should not be a battle, and we appreciate you taking the time to encourage your child to complete extra practice at home. Remember, if your child returns their homework packet on Thursdays they get paid in BOB Bucks to shop in the BOB Buck store on Fridays!

Connect Area to Multiplication and Addition

Topic 6

Topic 6 Standards

3.MD.C.5a, 3.MD.C.5b, 3.MD.C.6, 3.MD.C.7a, 3.MD.C.7b, 3.MD.C.7c, 3.MD.C.7d

See the front of the Student's Edition for complete standards.

Dear Family,

Your child is learning about area. In addition to learning about the area of simple rectangular shapes, he or she will also learn how to find the area of irregular shapes. Your child will use both nonstandard and standard units to calculate areas with and without grid paper.

Here is an activity you can use to help your child understand area.

Changing Area

Materials grid paper and pencil

Step 1 Draw a rectangle on the grid paper, and have your child count the unit squares to find the area. Draw another rectangle with different dimensions. Have your child find the area of this rectangle.

Step 2 Draw an irregular figure, such as the outline of a house using a square and a triangle. Have your child count the unit squares to find the area. Work with your child to determine how to estimate area when only a portion of the unit square is filled. For example, 2 half unit squares is equal to 1 whole unit square.