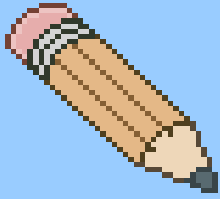


WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO ?



February 15, 2009

This was a great week. We ended with a Valentine Party on Friday. Thanks to all the moms that sent in plates, treats, and activities.

Math

We worked this week on multiple digit multiplication and division with two digit numbers. The skill of double digit division is a difficult one because it requires students to be able to estimate an answer and then proceed with the steps of division. They need strong multiplication skills and subtraction skills to answer problems successfully. I created several different games this past week to reinforce the skills we are having some difficulty with. Students practiced identifying and creating Roman Numerals in one game, comparing fractions in another game, making equivalent fractions and multiplying two-digit numbers in the final games. These games provide practice on mathematical skills and provide educational practice opportunities. Last week, several game ideas were sent home that can reinforce basic math skills. You may not think your child needs practice on addition or subtraction anymore, but this is where the errors in work are occurring. Double digit multiplication problems were returned to students and they needed to find their own errors after they were corrected by me. The errors occurred mostly in the addition of the two numbers, or forgetting to add the number that was regrouped.

We will continue working on these math skills.



pppst.com

February 2009

Important Dates

- School will be in session on February 16th, Presidents Day (due to all the snow days)
- 100th day of school—February 17th
- Early Dismissal February 20th—11:45

Language Arts

Last week students worked on vocabulary and daily edits. Vocabulary scores increased dramatically last week. We worked on using these vocabulary words and identifying them in other work. The book Time Bike had several examples of our current vocabulary words.

This week we will be working on Unit 8 in Wordly Wise. There will be a test on the weekly words on Friday.

We will be finishing up work on our reading books and beginning a unit on Folktales. Students will learn about literary elements that are common to all types of fiction: characters, dialogue, narration, plot, and setting. Many folktales also include personification, metaphors, similes, and repetition. We will be reading St. George and the Dragon, Fire on the Mountain, and The Magic Brocade. In two weeks, I would like all students to choose a folktale of their choice to read and write about the literary elements.

<http://www.carolhurst.com/subjects/fairytongueincheek.html> is a site with fairy tales and folktales... or look at the library in the folktale section– 390. I will also have some examples at school that can be borrowed.

Social Studies

In Social Studies this week we worked on map skills and using map scales to convert inches to miles. We worked on measuring accurately, using the correct side of the ruler– inches not centimeters, and also noted that not all rulers begin at zero... some start a bit into the ruler and if not used correctly, this will throw the measurements off. We worked on identifying locations on a map and worked more on coordinates.

On Friday, students created their own coordinate game and played capture the candy. They needed to roll a die and decide how to use the coordinates strategically to get to the pieces of candy. They did a great job on reinforcing x and y coordinates and creating strategic moves.

Homework for the Week of February 16th

Monday: Wordly Wise words...Test on Friday over Unit 8 words. Please choose 10 words and write a sentence for each.

Tuesday: Reading assignment

Wednesday. Practice Math

Thursday: Study Wordly Wise words for a test and read for 15 minutes. I will not be at school on Friday. I will be taking Madison on a college visit. Mrs. Lipinski will be the sub for me... be on your BEST BEHAVIOR for her.

Friday is an early dismissal day. Have a great weekend.

ALL LEGACY WORK NEEDS TO BE AT SCHOOL SO WE CAN COMPLETE THIS PROJECT. Please send photos, on CD's if possible, to school. Students need 12 or more photos for their books.