

October News 2019

Mrs. Palumbo



Dear Families,

I really enjoyed getting the chance to meet many of you on Know Your School Night. I look forward to seeing everyone again on Friday, November 15th for Report Card Conferences. Thank you to those who have already signed up. A reminder will go home a couple weeks before the conferences. If you have not signed up for a conference time I will get in touch with you to set up a time. If there is a time that works best please send me a note or an email and I can let you know if it is still available .

I appreciate your support in making sure homework is completed each night and the Communication Folder is returned each day. Parent/teacher communication plays a key role in your child's school experience. Please let me know if you ever have any questions or concerns and I will get back to you as soon as possible. You can always write a note, call, or email me at palumbom@worcesterschools.net

Dates to Remember:

- 10/8- Libby (Book-Mobile) Visits
- 10/10- Book Order Due
- 10/11- No School- Professional Development
- 10/14- No School- Columbus Day
- 10/15- Field Trip to Tower Hill
- 10/21- PTG Meeting 6:30pm
- 10/25- Story Telling Festival 6pm
- Harvest Festival—7-8pm
- 11/15- Parent Conferences

Tower Hill Field Trip:

On Tuesday, October 15th we will go on our first field trip of 2nd Grade to Tower Hill. This trip is rain or shine so please check the weather for the day of the trip. We do spend a good amount of the trip outside exploring habitats. Students will have their snack when we get to Tower Hill so please pack a small, disposable snack. We are looking forward to a great trip. Students will have lunch when we return to school.



October Newsletter



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Our Learning Focus- Every Student's Job

I think when I read, listen and look. I track my thinking to help me understand
I can explain and justify my thinking using what I've read, heard and seen.

ELA (English Language Arts)

Phonics: Throughout the month our phonics focus will be on glued sounds- ild, ind, old, olt, ost. We will then move on to suffixes -s, -ed, -ing. We will explore the reasons for these suffixes and also strategies in adding a suffix to a word. We will then explore comparison suffixes—er, -est. We will also continue to add a few trick words each week that we practice and add to our Word Wall.

Read Aloud/Read to Self: Throughout the month we will complete an author study of Tomie dePaola by reading several of his books and looking for common themes throughout these read alouds. We will also use Big Books to explore nonfiction text. We will explore text features in nonfiction text such as photographs, maps, headings, etc.. These text features will help us to better understand nonfiction text. We will chart text features and their purpose. Students will then apply this practice during Read to Self by charting text features and their purpose that supported their comprehension. We will also explore close reading strategies- setting a purpose and rereading a text several times with the purpose in mind.

Writing: We have begun writing our own opinion piece. We talked about how each person has their own opinion and ways that we can voice our opinion through writing. We make sure to support it with reasons and explanations. We use an organizer to plan our writing (using cave-man talk of course) then we are finally ready to write! When our writing is complete we use a scoring rocket to examine, edit our piece and set a goal for growth.

Math

We are beginning Topic 2. In this topic students will learn about equal groups of numbers and how to use arrays to organize numbers and find sums. We will also explore odd/even numbers as we make arrays. I have attached a sheet with more information about Topic 2 and also some ways to support your child at home.

We will continue to work on addition/subtraction facts within 20. Students are using Xtra Math daily in the classroom to work on accuracy and fluency. I have attached a 2nd copy of the parent letter for those that have yet to sign up at home. Xtra Math is a great way for students to continue to practice their facts with automatic feedback. Parents also receive weekly feedback on your child's progress.

Science/SS:

As we read and discuss Christopher Columbus we will become explorers ourselves. We will discuss continents and oceans and their locations on the map. We will also continue to study habitats. As we explore habitats we have been discussing and charting characteristics of each habitat. We are also studying how plants and animals interact and survive based on the habitat that they live in.

Reading Groups: Reading groups will begin the week of 10/7. Each day your child will take part in Book Club with the teacher. Each night Monday-Thursday your child will bring home a book bag that will have the book we are reading in class. I ask that you have your child reread what was read in class- this will be marked with a post it. This continued practice at home will help to build fluency, accuracy and comprehension. Some nights there may be a follow up sheet for your child to reflect on their reading. Please make sure that your child returns their bag each day so they have their book for Book Club!

Important Reminders

Homework Folders go home Monday-Friday. Please make sure to check for homework and review your child's work completed at school.

Read Every Night No Matter What! It's important that each child is reading for at least 20 minutes each night!