

THE BENOIT BUNCH

October News 2019

Mrs. Benoit

October already! This school year is off to a quick start. Routines are in place and your child knows the expectations of teacher and classroom. Thank you for your continued support from home. It shows children that the home/school connection is an important one.

Reading: Reading groups have started and students are reading with purpose and strategy. Ask your child what book they are reading and who their reading teacher is.

Nightly reading for 20 minutes is an important party of literacy. Children who read for 20 minutes or more are exposed to new vocabulary, and sharpen their comprehension skills through prediction and perseverance. PLEASE be sure to sign your child's nightly log.

We are working on MAIN IDEA, FACTS and DETAILS, and SEQUENCING to help us dig deeper into understanding text.

This month's focus will include: AESOP'S FABLES

Spelling: New words (10) are introduced every Monday. Children are asked to practice the words nightly for 5 minutes. This is a very important part of fluency and should not be skipped. Tests are on Fridays. The words are specifically chosen with math and reading in mind.

Math: We have begun multiplication (repeated addition) and are working on drawing equal sets to understand the concept. For example: $3 \times 8 = 24$ because 3 sets of 8 is the same as $8 + 8 + 8$

Students will write their own multiplication number stories as well.

Example: There are 3 cages with 8 monkeys in each cage. How many monkeys are there altogether? Answer: 24 monkeys in total

Please continue to review the Weekly Math Assessments with your child. Two Step Number Stories are part of the 3rd grade math curricula. Soon, students will attempt 3 step number stories. These take continual practice and require careful reading and marking up of the text.

We also will be reviewing telling time to the minute, geometrical shapes, and fractional parts. Any help you can lend at home with these skills is greatly appreciated.

PROPERTIES:

The Zero Property: any number multiplied by zero is ALWAYS zero

The Identity Property: any number multiplied by 1 is itself

The Commutative Property: you can switch a (+ or x) equation around and still get the same answer. Example: $4 \times 8 = 32$ and $8 \times 4 = 32$

The Distributive Property: known as the “break apart” method allows us to deconstruct numbers and equations. Example: $34 + 29 = (30 + 4) + (30 - 1)$ OR $(30 + 30) + (4 - 1)$

Try it!!! It’s actually pretty fun. Break the numbers apart and rebuild them!

We play dice games to help us learn math facts. We also sing the tables in school. Ask your child all about it!

Bouncing a ball or jumping is another way to help with memorizing math facts. Students will also rely on skip counting and number lines to show their thinking.

Skip counting strips are stapled into agendas each week to remind students to practice their facts. Please assist your child with memorizing the facts. THIS IS KEY to a successful year in grade 3.

Social Studies: Throughout the next two months our focus will be Colonial times and life in the 1600s. This is to prepare for Plimoth Plantation. Field trip notices have gone home. If you are planning on volunteering for the trip, please know that we have a LOTTERY SYSTEM in place. PLEASE be sure to have an ACTIVE C.O.R.I on file. We will contact you if your name is selected to volunteer. ONLY 2 parents per room will attend this field trip. There will be more opportunities to chaperone for future events.

Please visit the website: <https://www.plimoth.org/> to learn more.

Science: Students are using discovery and the scientific method through experimentation and writing.

Typing: Students are asked to further their typing skills at home using their log in: lunch #
Soon, they will be keyboarding responses from home.

Students have been playing: <http://freerice.com/#/english-vocabulary/1446> to improve their vocabulary. Every time a word is defined correctly, grains of rice are added to a bowl. No matter your age, the game is self-leveling...so anyone can play. What are you waiting for? Go earn some rice and help fight hunger.

SRSD: third graders continue to write together 2x weekly. We are using T.I.D.E to help formulate 5 paragraph essays and remind us to stay regulated! So far, students have written (2) 5

paragraph essays and have recently color-coded an exemplar to understand: topic paragraph, 3 detailed facts, and ending. Ask your child what they've been writing.

HOUSE KEEPING:

*Label all outer clothing with your child's name. Hats, coats, sweatshirts, etc. These expensive items can easily become "lost."

*C.O.R.I forms take about 6 -8 weeks to be approved – if you are hoping to chaperone on a trip – an up to date CORI must be on file.

WISHLIST:

Stickers (for our math journals...we go through a lot of them!)

Sugarless gum (fun flavors)

I have read Mrs. Benoit's October Newsletter 2019:

_____ Parent

_____ Child

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Amy Benoit