

November Newsletter 2019

From: Mrs. Benoit & The Benoit Bunch

Nov. 5th Plimoth Plantation

Nov. 11th Veteran's Day

Nov. 22nd 3rd Grade Conferences

Nov. 27, 28, 29 Thanksgiving Break

Welcome to a very short month! We have lots to do in a little bit of time. Your child has settled in to third grade routines and is comfortable with the work and expectations. I hope you see this too!

PENNY DRIVE: Please consider donating -- whether a dollar, or coins and pennies, please know that all proceeds collected for the ANNUAL PENNY DRIVE help to fill Thanksgiving baskets for some of our WAMS families in need of a little help this Thanksgiving. Faculty, staff and students are working together to support this worthwhile cause.

Reading: We are busy 3x/week reading with our CIA reading groups. Ask your child which book he/she is reading, and which teacher leads the group.

Please continue to see that your child is reading for enjoyment at home for 20 minutes each night for fluency and comprehension.

The children have been learning about **NOUNS**: common nouns, proper nouns, singular nouns and plural nouns, and nouns as subjects in a sentence.

We will continue with **VERBS** and move into **ADJECTIVES** later in the month.

The children have completed their study of Aesop and have read and analyzed many fables. They've applied morals to each of the fables and are expected to share their thinking with you.

Spelling: Please see that your child is reviewing the weekly words for accuracy. Each week, 10 new words are introduced. Words are specifically chosen for vocabulary, spelling patterns, and because they directly correlate with future lessons in mind.

Words are reviewed in class and are broken into "chunks" for easy spelling practice.

Math: The children will continue to MEMORIZE the multiplication facts by understanding that DIVISION is part of the multiplication fact family. For example: $5 \times 9 = 45$ and $9 \times 5 = 45$ and $45 \div 9 = 5$ and $45 \div 5 = 9$

Please see that your child is practicing with DRILLS (online) through their CLEVER account (XtraMath) and other online games, as well as with FLASHCARDS (home-made or store-bought).

Like letters of the alphabet help us to read and spell correctly, math facts are the foundation to all mathematical comprehension.

IF your child KNOWS the x2 facts, then he can understand the x4s facts (because the product just doubles).

Ex. $2 \times 3 = 6$ so 4×3 would be double the product of 6 which is 12!!!

IF your child KNOWS the x 3 facts, then he can understand the x6 facts (because the product just doubles).

Ex. $3 \times 5 = 15$ so 6×5 would be double the product of 15 which is 30!!!

IF your child KNOWS the x 4 facts, then he can understand the x8 facts (because the product just doubles).

Ex. $4 \times 7 = 28$ so 8×7 would be double the product of 28 which is 56!!!

We've been learning about the **PROPERTIES** of **MATHEMATICAL THINKING**:

The **COMMUTATIVE** PROPERTY: $4 \times 6 = 24$ and $6 \times 4 = 24$ (FLIP FLOP)

The **DISTRIBUTIVE** PROPERTY: $7 \times 4 = (5 \times 4) + (2 \times 4) = 28$ (BREAK APART METHOD)

The **ASSOCIATIVE** PROPERTY: $4 \times 3 \times 5 = (4 \times 3) \times 5$) OR $(3 \times 5) \times 4 = 60$ (No matter how you arrange the facts, the product will always be the same!)

The **IDENTITY** PROPERTY: $4 \times 1 = 4$ 1×8 (Any number multiplied x1 is itself)

The **ZERO** PROPERTY: $0 \times 5 = 0$ $3 \times 0 = 0$ (Any number multiplied by zero is zero!)

In class we watch videos, play games, sing songs, discuss with partners, look for the essential part of the question, and plan and draw out equations to help us understand.

This month's focus will be **TOPIC 4: Repeated subtraction is Division!**

Working with macaroni or cereal pieces (called "counters") at home helps to make math tangible. Be sure to practice facts with your child (at home, in the car, during bath/meal times, etc). Repeated practice is key!

Make math fun at home: time how many jumping jacks can be done in 1 minute. See how long your child can balance a book on her head or balance on one leg. Have your child "buy" a gallon of milk and pay with a \$5 bill. What was the change? Explain to your child that the gallon of milk along with the "change" is equal to the \$5 she started with.

Use a measuring cup to introduce $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ concepts, baking is great because you can eat the results.

Most of all, have fun with math!

Social Studies: Our trip to Plimoth Plantation is set for November 5th. The children have been learning about 17th century living (and about Native Americans and Europeans). Ask your child what they've enjoyed. We will continue with this study throughout the month.

Science: The children will continue to discover through experimentation.

PLEASE access CLEVER for typing skills, Xtramath, and review of math concepts on Pearsonrealize

FREERICE.COM is a great site for vocabulary building.

WISHLIST:

- *dum dum lollipops
- *individual packages of Skittles
- *Starbursts
- *stickers (for math notebooks)
- *pennies (for the Penny Drive)

As we prepare for family-centered celebrations this month, I am reminded of just how thankful I am for your support.

Your child is a blessing!

Amy Benoit

