

## 4th Grade News

October 2019

Mrs. Maloney and Mrs. Savage

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, or seen.

### October Calendar

October 18th- Field Trip to the Museum of Science

October 21st- PTG Meeting at 6:30 PM

October 25th- Storytelling Festival 6PM

Harvest Dance 7PM

Oct. 30- Nov. 20th Penny Drive

### Reminder

Conferences are going to be held on Thursday, November 7th throughout the day. If you have not scheduled a meeting please contact your students teacher.

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We look forward to connect with you and share some of the amazing things happening this year.

## English Language Arts

We just finished up our read aloud of The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, by Kate DiCamillo. Students read closely to find important evidence to prove their inferences. They wrote several "low tides" or paragraphs in which they combined their thinking with evidence from the text. We have been using sentence frames to help students recognize how to include both text evidence as well as elaboration. We also began using various articles and such from Readworks Magazine. This has turned out to be a great resource for our ELA instruction. We learned a new mnemonic to help with conclusion writing. Ask your child about "NIP". This stands for New Thinking, Implication, and Plea, the three necessary parts to a memorable conclusion.

# Math

Multiplication is really taking off in grade four. The students have mastered several strategies for multiplying up to four digit numbers by a one digit number. We dug deep into the distributive property showing various methods and strategies for problem solving. Ask your child about area model, partial products, bar diagrams, and distributive property just to name a few. Students also reviewed the standard traditional algorithm. We will push on into double digit by double digit multiplication before tackling division. Remember fact mastery is a must! Keep practicing at home.

# Science and Social Studies

We have begun a unit on the human body. This unit compares the human body to a machine, helping students understand that we have parts for moving around, sensors and a built in computer. Students work together to explore their senses and consider how this information helps us understand how we react to our environment. Ask your child about the robot finger and model of the cornea and retina that we recently made.

We are covering European explorers and the impact the age of exploration had on Indigenous People. Students are exploring Christopher Columbus and will write an opinion "low TIDE" on whether we should honor him with a holiday. We will continue to cover explorers and settlement of the United States with an emphasis on Native Americans in the area.

# Internet Resources

Online homework is becoming more and more of a reality. If you need help logging in or accessing your child's account please reach out. We can schedule an appointment where we meet and we can help show you some trouble shooting strategies. If internet access is unavailable we will make other arrangements for homework to be completed. This might consist of a paper based homework assignment or possibly an extension.