

OCTOBER NEWS

2019



MRS. DRISCOLL

Dear Families.

I am happy that I got the chance to meet so many of you on Know Your School Night. I look forward to seeing everyone again on Friday, November 15, 2019 for Report Card conferences. Thank you for signing up for a conference so quickly.

I appreciate your support in making sure homework is completed nightly and the Communication Folder is returned to school each day. Parent/teacher communication is a very important part of your child's school experience—it can be the key to success!

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please jot me a note, send me an email or call the school. I will get back to you as soon as possible.



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.

IMPORTANT DATES:

October

2 Governance Council 7:30am

7 WAMS Library

8 Lilly Bookmobile

11 NO SCHOOL —

Staff Development Day

14 NO SCHOOL—

Columbus Day

15 Field Trip to Tower Hill

21 PTG Meeting 6:30pm

22 Scholastic Book Order Due

25 Harvest Festival

30 Penny Drive Begins



Tower Hill Botanic Garden

We will travel by bus on Oct. 15th. Please dress for the weather as we will go rain or shine! Students may bring a completely disposable pocket sized snack. We will eat lunch at school.

Please note: We will not celebrate Halloween during the school day, but our class will have a **PUMPKIN DAY** on Monday, October 28th. We will do lots of fun activities, and we need your help! Please consider donating pumpkins and/or joining us that day.



Classroom directories were in Know Your School Night folders.

Curriculum Notes

English/Language Arts:

Our guided reading groups are starting! We will meet four to five times per week and there will be nightly homework that will come home in a plastic bag separate from the red folder. When there is reading homework, I will only give math homework in the red folder.

We will continue daily whole group reading activities—Interactive Read Alouds and Shared Readings. We will also work on “Close reading” strategies - reading a text multiple times for multiple purposes - as we continue our school wide focus of writing informational pieces using the TIDE mnemonic.

We are supplementing the phonics component of Fountas and Pinnell Classroom with weekly words lists. Please assist your child in learning the words each week. I have also attached the “personal word wall” list that all students have in their desks to assist in writing and spelling at home.

Please set aside time day for your child to read at home. This is in addition to regular homework. Children should be reading at least 20 minutes each day. “The more you know, the more you grow!”

Math:

We are finishing up Topic 2 (Working with Equal Groups) . After completing the online and paper assessments, we will begin Topic 3 (Adding Within 100 Using Strategies). The homework for this chapter will likely prove challenging and confusing for parents because it is not how we learned multi digit addition. Please don't get frustrated. Just send me a note. I am happy to help!

PLEASE PRACTICE MATH FACTS AT HOME EACH DAY. By the end of second grade, all students need to be automatic with all facts (with sums to 20). We will continue to use xtramath.org in school, and it would be very helpful for your child to use this at home as well. If you haven't already logged on from home, I have attached another set of directions to this newsletter to help you get started.

Science:

We will continue to learn about animal and plant adaptations in various habitats. In fact, we will see 4 different habitats when we go to Tower Hill on Oct. 15th!

Social Studies:

We will continue investigating various types of maps and map projections. We will read maps and make some of our own!

