

Mrs. Reed's Third Grade Newsletter
Week of October 12, 2010



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Well it finally rained! Can you believe it?

This Friday our class will be having a "FUN FRIDAY" party to celebrate all the compliments we have earned so far! It's over a 100 – and the children are very excited.

We will be making - S'mores by following sequential non-fiction genre directions! – Basically, we will be applying reading strategies in a very hands-on way!

The ingredients will be graham crackers, the gooey ready-made marshmallow mix and a chocolate bar. If you child is allergic to any of these items please let me know ASAP. Also...we are in need of drinks for this day...and if you'd like to contribute a snack for our special occasion we'd love to have you treat us!

As always thank you so much for letting me work with your wonderful children...they are fantastic!

Mrs. Reed ☺

Parent Teacher Conference is this Wednesday and Thursday. If you'd like to speak, I still have openings!

- **Math:** Students took a district math assessment and did very well. These scores were attached via a sticker in your child's agenda. Students are now working with graphs and will be learning about outliers, mode, range, and median. A parent-letter explaining this unit will go home later in the week. If you need more information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Word Work Students are working with the suffix – s, and –er, and –ly. They have reference sheets now taped to their desks and are receiving flashbacks in the morning to help them master this concept.

Writing: Students have picked the focus of their memoir and identified the relationship they plan to write about. We basically have 4 categories: things, places, people, and animals. Right now we are in the drafting stage. If you can, please work with your child about the concept of a paragraph and how to start each one by indenting five finger spaces.

Science: The Bess Beetles have entered the room. Anthony gave them his half-eaten apple and as the rot squad they are very happy decomposing what has been given to them.

A big thank you to Isa's mom- who has been volunteering in the classroom on Wednesday's. The students love reading to her and she loves working with them. Last week we received a nice cookie treat – oatmeal and chocolate – which was a very hard decision to make! Thank you ...thank you Mrs. Welsh!!! ☺ ☺

Reading Workshop: We're into a huge CCGP unit with non-fiction hunting out text features like subheadings, starbursts, text boxes, maps, charts and then determining the pattern of organization. Students are also learning how to find the main idea and what the words – supporting details mean. They are also learning what a multiple meaning word like dip means. Try asking your child what the different definitions of dip are and you will get an earful!

At the 3:00 hour each day students have been working with FROG games. These are like multiple choice problem solving games. The students get to work with a partner, sprawl on the floor and practice reading questions to one another all the while moving on a game board.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!! October 22nd is the Fall Festival. It's a Friday night from 6 to 8.

Computer – Please check out my class website. Students continue to practice their keyboarding skills.
<http://msreedsclass.weebly.com/>
There you will find the homework for the week as well as the spelling lists up through December.

AP testing has begun! Mrs. Adamson is testing the third graders while I work with those that are not taking the assessment.

Hwang Marshall Arts If interested I have some wonderful video of the students participating last Tuesday and Wednesday with Hwang Marshall Arts. Students loved this little treat from Mr. Johnson. Wow! They really worked together, laughed and learned a lot! Kudos to the students for working so beautifully and showing what a great and fabulous class room 119 is!!!! ☺

Last week our student of the week (SPOW) was Madison Monsky. Madison from her sharing time showed us the three important things to her: her Torah, a box that her mother gave to her from Boston, and a glass jar filled with sand and seashells. Our audience was extremely respectful of her and shared connections and asked questions at the end of her presentation. They also gave her positive feedback about her presentation so she could improve!

This next Friday our SPOW will be Anthony Bricest. We cannot wait to hear what three things are important to him.

Pretty much every Monday's homework from now on will be a reading trifold, just like this past Monday. We will read the passage over in class and do a few problems in class with the rest to be done at home. Even though the passage is read in class, I encourage you to read over the passage again at home. The content will be for now science and then we will move into the biography genre. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Two to three days a week students have been invited to each lunch in the classroom and sit, yes, anywhere they want! After students talk awhile, I then bring out a book and read it to them. Right now I am reading the book, **Love That Dog**. Students really enjoy this time and it gives us extra time to enjoy lunch time. So far we've discussed what our streets are like...where we play outside...and an animal that has been special to our lives.