

October 17, 2011

Fall is here!

Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to help us make banana bread for the Harvest Fair. The class was able to donate \$75.00 to the P.T.G. after selling the bread. Be sure to check out our pictures of baking day on the class website.

NECAP testing begins this week. There will be three days of reading and three days of math. It is very important that your child eat a healthy breakfast and get to bed early this week. A snack will be provided after each test this week in order to recharge for the rest of the school day. Testing will begin at 8:00 in the morning so it is important that your child is not late for school.

MATH MINUTES...

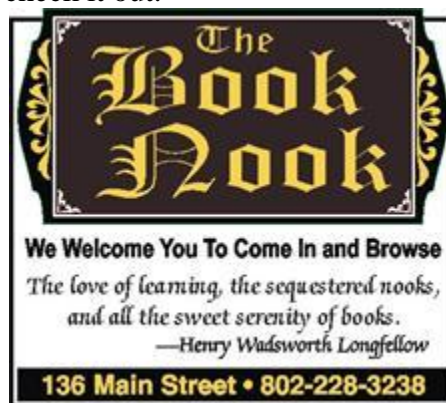
Our first unit on number sense has ended and we are now learning about data. We are focusing on how to collect, represent, and analyze data. We use this skill almost daily in science so the connection between the two is helping in both academic areas. So far the class has collected and sorted data based on places and locations of where the class likes to eat.

In order to help your child become fluent with addition and subtraction facts it would be helpful if they practiced these facts at home. The math games you have been seeing as homework are also ways to reinforce fact memorization.

WRITING WONDERS...

Writing has become one of the favorite times of the day in third grade. The class has finished their first piece of writing. This piece of writing was a personal essay about an object in their life that is special to them. We used a mentor text called The Hickory Chair to discuss symbolism, writing with our senses, and connecting an ending back to a moment in a story. This piece of writing took everyone in the class through the writing process from start to finish. This included prewriting discussion, writing more than one draft of their story, peer editing, conferencing with the teacher, self-editing (yes, using a dictionary and not just spell check), publishing, and sharing their stories. The class is eager to share their writing pieces with parents so we will be inviting parents and family friends in to hear the writing on Friday, October 21st at 1:45.

There are Halloween poems on display in the hallway outside our classroom. These were written as observation poems using the five senses. I am also proud to say that these poems are also on display in the window of the Book Nook in town. Our class will be working with the owner of the bookstore this year at keeping the Book Nook window stocked with our classroom writing. Please be sure to go down and check it out.



SCIENCE STATS...

Thank you to everyone who came to “Owl Night.” By the smiles on everyone’s faces it looked like the night was a lot of fun. The artwork from the evening will be sent home in the next week. Some of the artwork will be remaining at school for the art show in the spring.

Our owl unit has come to a close. The next unit in science will focus on the states of matter. We will of course continue our daily experiments in the classroom. If you have not had a chance to look at your child’s science notebook please take some time to do so. There is a great deal of writing and math happening in science daily!

READ...READ...READ...

We have finished the book Charlotte’s Web and are currently reading the book Poppy by Avi. This is a tale about Mr. Ocax the owl and how he rules the forest.

Students are working on writing about what they read in class. We will begin working in the SRA box this week which will encourage comprehension and working with the English language.

IMPORTANT DATES...

10/17-10/21: Parent Conferences

:NECAP Testing

11/11: No School-Teacher In-service

11/23-11/25: No School-Thanksgiving

11/30: Ragamala Dance at Castleton State College

