

Team 4 February News

Problem Solvers

In reading, we have recently completed the theme 3 Integrated Themes Test. The students have done a wonderful job putting forth their best effort during all parts of the test. Way to go fourth grade students!

In theme 4, “Problem Solvers”, there will be four short stories that we will focus on, which include My Name is Maria Isabel, Marven of the Great North Woods, The Last Dragon, and Sing to the Stars. During theme 4, we will be working on many reading strategies. The strategies that we will focus on are summarizing, predicting, questioning and evaluating. We will also be working on skills, such as drawing conclusions and identifying the different parts of story structure.

Here are some ideas for books that can be read independently or at home together. These books would tie in with our new theme “Problem Solvers”. These ideas include: Henry and Ribsy and Ramona’s World by Beverly Cleary, Cam Jansen and the Barking Treasure Mystery by David Adler, Boys at Work by Gary Soto, Suitcase by Mildred Pitts Walter Lothrop, and The Great Bicycle Race Mystery by Gertrude Chandler Warner Whitman.

The Facts about Math

Thank you for helping our fourth graders practice their basic math facts. Please continue practicing with your child and reminding them to turn in their math minutes (50 minutes) every Friday. Keep up the great practice fourth graders!

Important Dates

January 28 – Symphony Concert
February 3 – State Writing
February 4 – State Writing

Writing

Fourth graders are continuing their practice of writing personal narratives. The State Writing Test will be here before we know it! The test is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3 and Wednesday, February 4 from 8:45-9:25. Please make sure that your child gets a good night of sleep and has a hearty breakfast that morning. We want to make sure that they have all of the tools to be successful.

The fourth grade teachers would like to encourage you to talk to your child about their writing on Tuesday night. They can share with you their writing idea and story.

We will be having a fun Writing Rally Monday afternoon to get the students excited and pumped up for the test. Go Fourth Graders!

After the State Writing Test, the writing focus will change to persuasive essays, personal essays, and finally expository research. It will be exciting to change from the previous writing mode.

Unit Studies

We have recently finished an explorer unit. In this unit, the students read and learned about the Native American tribes that were living in Nebraska, the Spanish explorers that came to America (primarily the Midwest region), and other explorers, traders, and missionaries who came to our country.

We will be starting a new health unit focused on nutrition. We will be discussing the food groups, vitamins, nutrients, and healthy choices (diet and exercise).

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