

GRESHAW GAZETTE

Friday Newsletter



January 6, 2012



Language Arts

Word Wisdom- We are starting our 4th unit based on words related to communication. In grammar we are working with nouns.

Reading Workshop- Our

unit of focus right now is Historical Fiction. I have started reading aloud Letters from Rifka by Karen Hesse. This story takes place during World War I and is about a Russian Jew fleeing to America. We are also going to be starting to read Number the Stars by Louis Lowry. This story takes place during World War II. It takes place in Denmark and focuses also on the "relocation" of the Jewish population. The students have been asked to get a historical fiction book of their own as well. (It sounds like a lot, but I'm thinking we can manage them all!)



Writer's Workshop- Informational Writing will be our next focus and we should be starting that soon!

Math

We are into double digit division! We started with compatible numbers again and the students seem to have a better grasp on this. We will work on this for a week or two.

Science

We are starting our second unit of study: Life Science. We are starting with the Human Body and the Skeletal System. I plan on spending about 1-2 weeks on each system.

Social Studies

Geography Bee is this coming Monday (Jan. 9th) in the Gym. The top 2 students in our class will compete in the school Geography Bee. We have been spending our time this week working through those questions and will begin ch. 4: Great Lakes next week.

Religion

We finished working on Baptism and had a quiz on Thursday. Monday we will begin learning more about Confirmation.

Just to Add...

- If you are still interested in being a Mystery Reader and have not received a definite date, let me know by email mgreshaw@stpaul-school.org. Some parents have expressed an interest and we haven't set up a date! Any close relative is invited to share with the class.
- With colds and flu going around we are really trying to keep our classroom clean and as germ free as possible. Do you think you could help with a donation of:
 - o Clorox disinfecting wipes
- Sometimes students forget their snack or occasionally get hungry before the end of the school day. I am wondering if some parents would be willing to donate some healthy snacks for the kids to enjoy.
- For a 5th grade Lenten project, we make rosaries out of magazine beads. The students take cut magazine strips, roll them on toothpicks, and create beads. We also create clay beads. For some it is a very relaxing project. Others will have some difficulties, but the end result is stunning. It is my hope that I can get some parent volunteers for a day to help with the clay beads and some possible donations. Let me know if you are interested. Thanks.
- In April the 5th grade students will be attending Camp Manitou-Lin. This is an overnight adventure that works on team building, communication, and is a lot of Fun! This year's cost is \$62. No need for payment now, but I wanted everyone to be aware of the cost. Towards the end of February, I will get permission slips and notices out.
- Thanks so much for all of your continued support. We have had a great kick off to the New Year!