

Spelling- Great job to the super spellers for week four- this week was a little tougher with the vowel combination, but 5 still passed the Monday pretest and were excused from the practice time this week (and the final test). Another 2 scored 100% on Friday. 🍌☐

Reading/Writing- More books shared aloud, and more practice with difference between retelling and summarizing and lessons about making inferences (figuring things out that the author doesn't tell us directly) and imagining scenes as we read (a critical skill as kids move toward exclusively reading chapter books with no pictures!!). We practiced that skill by reading some short stories out of a Chicken Soup for the Kid's Soul book (no pictures). We also focused on the language used in those short stories and especially how the author used descriptive language and dialogue to help us imagine the scenes (also what we are working on as writers!). Writing this week was week 2 of drafting. Many are just reaching the turning point in their story and have 5-6+ full pages of text. WOW! Using sticky notes to create small moments in the stories has been a super organizational tool for many. That way, when it comes time to write that portion of the story, they only focus on telling about what is on that ONE sticky note. Many really look forward to writing time and are enjoying their story coming to life! You may have noticed the new academic words of the week are in the newsletter too-- check it out if your child wants to get a head start on searching for the words!

Math- Finished up unit 1 and test was just Friday! Overall, grades were pretty solid and showed a good understanding of multi-digit adding and subtracting and the other topics covered. The test will come home in next week's Friday Folder, but the grades are online if you check PowerSchool. If you've never checked online, call or stop in the office for login information. You can check anytime for grades...no need to wait for Friday Folders! Real time uploads for grades. To give you a general picture of where your child stands in the class (once you see their test), there were 9 A's, 6 B's, 5 C's, and 1 D.

Science- Follow up work for unit 1-- end of mystery assessment (grades were very good!!) and another ReadWorks article (reading an article and answering questions all online-- great practice for MSTEP!). We move on to the next mystery about how eyes work next week.

Social Studies- First work with Michigan Open Book "textbook"-- I think they appreciated having a text copy to highlight and write on! They also enjoyed the interactive activities and videos and we had some great discussions about our US geography, including playing a latitude/longitude guessing game called "I am thinking of a country...". You could play it with your child, too. All you need is the map in their planner and they can teach you the rules. Just make sure the first clues begin with direction from the Equator or Prime Meridian. Our next few weeks will be studying the different regions of the US, starting with the Midwest. State shape recognition, abbreviations, capitals, and trivia about the state. Fun interactive games galore!!

Hopefully your child enjoys the gift of a book from the book order. Some have read the book, but seemed thrilled to get their own copy. I did not mention in the newsletter about the cost, but it would be \$23 if you (or someone you know) are interested in sponsoring a month sometime this year. Or maybe share it with someone else and each do half? The book orders always have several \$1 books to pick from, and this first month I couldn't pass up the sale price of a \$4 book that was a special price for September only!

You also may have noticed the big envelope with our PTO fundraiser information about beef jerky sales. PLEASE try to participate if possible! Even selling 1 helps. The money comes right back to the school with cool assemblies and field trip money at the end of the year. Also, we have begun collecting box tops and Family Fare receipts-- every dime helps!!

Have a great rest of your weekend! Remember, please do not use Remind until further notice. I am without my phone and cannot access it. Email, call me at school, or write a note in the planner if you need to contact me.