Fourth Grade News for Week of 1/28-1/30

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a wonderful LONG track out with theirchildren. I look forward to seeing all the students in classtomorrow! They should all berefreshed and ready to get back to work. 🕑💻 Please read the verydetailed newsletter for the upcoming week. There are a lot of details regarding some important items for thisquarter as well.

Important Dates for Quarter 3:

January 2015
28-Track in

February 2015
6-Book Club Meeting 1
12-Cultural Arts Event-Storyteller 11:20-11:50
13- Early Release & Book Club Meeting 2
19-Raleigh Walking Tour Field Trip (Bag Lunch)
20-Book Club Meeting 3
25-Interims
27-Book Club Meeting 4

March 2015
3-Spring Pictures
6-Early Release
11- In school science field trip (Title: Can you dig it? Time: 12:15-1:30)
20- FED Day- Learning Experience (Cafeteria 2:15-3:00)
23-Reading Case 21
24-Math Case 21
26-Interact Session in class
27- Track out/End Q2/Report Cards/Early Release

Whatwe are learning…..

Reading: In readingthis quarter, we will be focusing on reading Historical Fiction texts. This is my favorite quarter to teach because I see so many students truly fallin love with reading! As a class, wewill be reading the book Number the Stars, by Lois Lowry. This isthe story about the escape of a Jewish family from Copenhagen during World WarII. In preparation for this book, we will be teaching some backgroundknowledge about WWII and the holocaust. Wake County provides us witheducational and age appropriate materials to teach this subject which we willbe using. As you can imagine, there are often many questions that arisewhen teaching this matter. I wanted to inform you of this so that you candiscuss these topics with your child prior to our class discussions if youwish.

In addition to reading Number the Stars, your child will beparticipating in book clubs this quarter. They will be assigned anadditional historical fiction book to read based on my choice. Your childwill be discussing this book each week in a group setting with other studentsand a parent who are reading the same book. Some topics that these bookscover include the Great Depression, Civil Rights Movement, Immigration, andHiroshima. Your child will be provided with a copy of the text they arereading as well as a book club packet that they are responsible for

completingeach week. We will be spending a lot of time in class discussing theimportance of being an active group member and being prepared for discussionseach week. Your child will have hours in class each week to work on theirreading assignment as well as their book club packet. They may alsocomplete this each night on their reading log as needed. Being that bookclub assignments will be a significant portion of reading grades for thirdquarter, I wanted to make you aware of this information.

Writing: We will focus on opinionwriting this quarter. Thestudents should understand what opinion means and how you can use your opinionto persuade others. Students areexpected to organize an opinion piece of writing that provides reasons tosupport their opinion. Students will drawevidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection,and research.

Grammar: For grammar, we will focus on figurativelanguage for a week. We will learn abouthyperboles, personification, similes, and metaphors. We will start with grammar when we track in onWednesday and move into our opinion writing next Wednesday.

Science: We will belearning all about rocks and minerals this quarter. We will learn about the properties of rocksand minerals. In addition, students willexplore "mock rocks" to identify properties of rocks. We will observe and record many rocks andminerals this quarter. Ask your childabout their "mock rock" they used in class this week!

SocialStudies: This section is from [Name Removed] and has a lot ofinformation about the project done in class this quarter. Please email [Name Removed]if you have any questions!

During third quarter, we will be learning abouteconomics. Most of third quarter will be centered around our learningexperience known as FED Day (Free Enterprise Day). For FED Day, yourchild will be working in a group of his or her choice to create a company and aproduct. On FED Day (Friday, March 20th) your child's business will havethe chance to sell their product to their peers and to parents. Throughout the quarter your child will be learning about the characteristics ofa good company, how companies are structured and different aspects ofeconomics.

This week, when I introduce the project to the class, the number one thing I amgoing to emphasize is choosing a partner or group that they work well with. This may not be their BFF! :) I am going to tell the class that it isvery important to choose classmates that they can meet up with outside ofschool (so a neighborhood friend would be a great choice!). As parents Iwould love your support to possibly suggest good choices of classmates for yourchild to work with based on this. With this said, if for some reasonthere is difficulty meeting up outside of school I will be very happy toaccommodate and have a group come before or after school if needed. Thisis a quarter long project and there will be plenty of class time to work inclass- but there may have to be a few meetings in addition depending on theproduct your child's group chooses to

make. Working independently forthis project will be an option this year.

As I stated, your child's group will be making a product to sell. Products created in the past include things such as friendship bracelets, keychains, greeting cards, dream catchers, mini-pillows, etc. Your child'sgroup will have a combined total of $15 max to spend on this project. Receipts for items will have to be provided so that costs can be filled out onthe company ledger. If you have an item at home that your child isplanning on using (that you already bought and do not have a receipt) that isperfectly fine! We will have you write how much it cost (approx).

As a part of this project we will also hold "Shark Tank Day" which isbased on the ABC show, Shark Tank. The tentative date for this is Friday,March 6th, and we will need 3-6 parent volunteers. (We are hoping this will beabout 9:30-10:30am) Last year, I got rave compliments from parents whoattended about how fun it was and how impressed they were by the studentpresentations. As soon as this date/time is confirmed I will send out asign-up genius for interested volunteers.

Hopefully this information all gave you a good picture of FED Day. **Thisproject is mainly done IN SCHOOL!** The only thing your child will haveto do outside of school is get materials to make their product and meet withtheir partner or group if they need time to make products.

Math: We will be changing our math teachers this quarter,so your child may have a new teacher for math. Your child may have [Names Removed].

We will begin our unit on perimeter andarea. Students will learn how to findperimeter and area using formulas.

WeeklyFact Tests: 4th grade will continue giving weekly fact tests for multiplication. Many students cannot recall theirmultiplication facts and it is a challenge for them to divide. We will take them once a week in our homeroomclasses and graph our progress each week.

Students should know their facts from 3rd grade. Please make sure your childpractices multiplication fact cards, works on www.multiplication.com,MobyMax App: Fact Master, or review multiplication facts weekly.

Important Information…..

Shark TankDay Volunteers: FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!

In preparation forour fourth grade learning experience Federal Enterprise Day (FED) we will beholding "Shark Tank Day". This is where our entrepreneurs(students) will present their business ideas to the venture capitalists/sharks(parents). Parents who are willing to volunteer for this fun andeducational experience will question students about why they should invest intheir business. See the link below for an example: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AVM-RuLh2KI

We will hold thisevent on Friday, March 6th, which is an early release day. This will befrom 9:30-10:30am (approximately). We will need 3-6 parent volunteers perclassroom. The first to sign up will get the slots!

Please email yourchild's social studies teacher if you have any other questions!

[Name REMOVED]

Sign UpLink:

[Link Removed]

VOLUNTEERSNEEDED for Raleigh Walking Tour Field Trip: We will have a field trip on February 19th. We will visit the Legislative Building, StateCapitol, & the NC Museum of History. Students will need to pack a bag lunch for this field trip. We will arrive back to school after thecafeteria is closed and eat lunch in our classroom.

The buses typically arrive downtown between10-10:15 a.m. and we leave by 12:45 p.m. If you are an approved volunteer, then please let me know if you wouldlike to attend the trip. I will add yourname to the chaperone list for this trip. We still need more approved parents to help with this trip as we willbreak up into smaller groups at the NC History Museum. Thank you in advance to anyone who is able to attend our trip. Iwill send an email to chaperones the week before we go on the trip with moredetails.

I have the following parents as volunteers so far:

Please let me know if you would like to be added :)

ScholasticBook Order: The classwill get new Scholastic Book order pamphlets in class on Wednesday. Orders are due on February 4th. Please shoponline at: http://www.scholastic.com/parents/ Theclass code for online ordering is: **NBVWX**

Online Resources:

Please remember that your child can log on towww.adaptedmind.com and www.edmodo.com. AdaptedMind has extra math practice and Edmodo has a variety of apps for practice. Your child should have their log in andpasswords in their planner.

Field Trips: **Please pay for3rd and 4th quarter field trips if you have not already.Please email if you are unsure if you have paid in advance for the last twoquarters. I have a spreadsheet checklist of parents that have paid in advance.**

A copy of field trip information is posted onour class website. Please read throughthe information carefully regarding payment information. If you'd like to pay online, I have includedthe link below.

http://osp.osmsinc.com/wakenc

Paying online is a huge convenience andtime-saver if you are able to do so! Thank you in advance!!!!

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I lookforward to a great week back with the class!

Thanks,