

The Mimosa Manatee

Week of October 5, 2009

Second Grade

Your second grade child is having so much fun and learning at the same time! In Science, we are working on topics such as what causes day and night, how our shadows change throughout the day, why the moon looks like it shines, the phases of the moon, and the changing of the seasons. In reading, we are always focused on fluency. Along with that, we are reading a story about baking a cake and we will be baking a cake too. In Language Arts, we have been working on a writing assessment about a special memory and focusing on punctuation and capitalization in sentences. In math, we are working on measuring, time lines, hours of the day and night, temperature, and elapsed time. Please make sure you have reviewed the progress skills checklist sent home on Monday, signed the envelope, and returned the envelope back to your child's teacher.

Media Center

The media center is hosting a mini-book fair October 15-16. We are celebrating the release of the 4th book in the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" series, look for more information to come. Meanwhile, students are learning about non-fiction text features, note-taking and outlining, biographies, and the author, James Marshall. We're looking forward to reading stories about fall and fall activities, like National Hispanic Heritage Month, which is September 15-October 15.

Fourth Grade

Happy Fall from Fourth Grade! Conference Day is October 9th and will be here before we know it! Teachers are busily working to plan a time for meaningful conversation about your child's progress and to schedule translators when needed. Please make sure you have scheduled a conference time with your child's teacher(s) on the 9th or another day that is convenient for you. We look forward to meeting with you and sharing your child's accomplishments!

First Grade

Hello again from first grade. We are wrapping up lots of our learning this week and will begin with lots of fun and exciting new things. Here is a look at our next two weeks... In Reading, we will be working on *th* and the short *u*. In Language Arts, we will be reviewing telling parts for two. In Math, we finished shapes and will begin learning about fractions $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, whole. We finished sound in science and will begin learning about Lewis and Clark/Sacagawea and their expeditions.

Continue to check folders each day for important notices and to see what exciting things we are learning. Also, if you have not scheduled a conference with your child's teacher, please make sure that you do that as soon as possible!

Kindergarten

The Kindergarten classes are working hard daily to reach our goals and are looking forward to the upcoming learning opportunities. In Math, we will be finishing up our Measurement unit and beginning 2- and 3-dimensional shapes. In Social Studies, we will be learning about Columbus Day. In Reading and Language Arts, we are working on repeating auditory sequences (rhymes, songs, stories), handwriting, phonics, high-frequency words, making predictions, and story recall (beginning, middle, end).

The Pizza Hut "Book It" program begins this month. Our goal is one book report per week. At the end of the month, every student who reaches the goal will receive a coupon for a personal pizza. The students are very excited about this program. After you read a book with your child, please allow him/her to complete the book report form independently. Happy Reading!

Third Grade

In reading and language arts, students are working on identifying the main idea and supporting details in selections. They are continuing to study the different rules associated with making a noun plural. They will move into working with singular and plural possessive nouns.

In math, students are beginning to learn their multiplication facts. Strategies, such as drawing pictures, skip counting, using a number line and flashcards are being taught. Please encourage your child to practice his or her multiplication facts at home every night.

Students are examining what different organisms need to survive and how they have adapted to their environments in science. They will also be learning about productive resources and goods and services in a market economy during social studies.

Hearing & Vision Screenings

Mimosa's Annual Hearing and Vision Screenings will take place on Wednesday, October 7th and Thursday, October 8th. Students in grades 1 and 3 will have their vision tested and students in grades 3 and 5 will have their hearing tested. Please remember to have your child wear their glasses to school for the screenings.

Art

The Art Department is partnering with the PTA on an *Original Artworks* fundraiser. Parents will have the option to buy items with their child's artwork printed on it, such as coffee mugs, aprons, t-shirts, coasters, key chains, ornaments, postcards and more! Look for artwork and order forms to be coming home in the next couple of weeks. Items purchased will arrive in early December and will make great holiday gifts!

School Uniform Option

Order forms for school uniform polo shirts are coming home today! As part of our "Dress for Success" program, we are suggesting a school uniform for students at Mimosa. Short and long sleeve shirts with Mimosa's logo will be available in several colors and sizes. Short sleeve shirts with logo will cost \$12.50 and long sleeve with logo will be \$16.00. Students may wear polo shirts without the logo in red, navy blue, black or white if they choose. We suggest khaki or black pants. Girls may wear skirts or shorts that are knee length.

Fifth Grade

In 5th Grade, we continue to learn new concepts in all subject areas. Science skills involve knowing the parts of plant and animal cells and being able to tell the function of each. Students in this unit are required to make a model of a cell and correctly label its parts.

In Math, students are multiplying by powers of 10 with whole numbers and decimals. In Social Studies, we have completed our study of the Reconstruction era and will begin learning about westward expansion. Look for information about the social studies project. The Language Arts writing focus is on revising and editing narrative writings. In Reading, students are developing strategies to improve comprehension and vocabulary.

PreK

School will be closed on October 9th for Parent Conferences. However, PK **will not** have conferences at this time. We will meet in December to discuss your child's progress. If you have any immediate concerns, please contact your teacher. Also, now that the weather is changing, please remember that we will go outside every day. Please dress your student for the weather, in layers, so they can be comfortable indoors and out. Students also need shoes they can play, run and jump in! Family involvement has made our learning even more fun! We had a great time with our Grandparents and now we will celebrate the letter sound /d/ by Dancing with our Dads on October 2nd!

New Health Standards

The draft of the new Georgia Performance Standards for Health Education is available for review and comment. The draft and survey for comments can be found at:

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Standards/Pages/BrowseStandards/HealthEd.aspx>

The last day for comment will be November 13th.

Mark Your Calendar

October 9
Conference Day for grades K-5
Please bring an Interpreter if needed.

October 14
Early Release Day
Students dismissed at 11:30am

Many Thanks

This year Roswell Youth Day Parade's theme is Hero's. And one of our hero's is Home Depot! We would like to thank them for donating building supplies for our float and for volunteering to help us build it!