



### *Fourth Grade November Newsletter*

The First Quarter flew by like Autumn leaves in the cool November wind! Our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade year is in full swing! The Fourth Grade Team appreciates the parents and guardians who attended our October conference nights! We will have two more conference nights in November: Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. If you have not signed up for a conference yet, please call the office to schedule!

**Field Trip:** We are looking forward to our Field Trip to The National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>! Buses will leave promptly at 9:15! A reminder notice for chaperones with additional information will be sent home the week of the trip!

### Writing Workshop:

Students continue to be engrossed in daily writing! Personal narratives continue to evolve as we focus in on strong leads and endings and inclusion of more powerful words and figurative language. Many students have written persuasive business letters to the Governor in Social Studies. In addition, students are writing in response to what they read both independently and in Guided Reading groups. Many students also have written some very creative stories and poems in their free time!

## Reading:

All of our Fourth Graders are reading, reading, reading! Students are encouraged to continue reading at home independently as they work toward their Book It! Certificates! We hope that some of you have already had the opportunity to enjoy some delicious Pizza Hut Personal Pan Pizzas! We will continue to focus on Story Elements with an emphasis on character analysis in Quarter 2, identifying character traits, characters' motives, and explaining how the characters' actions affect the plot of a story. Students will also continue to analyze informational texts, distinguishing between facts and opinions and identifying the main idea and the author's purpose. Students are encouraged to keep reading over the Thanksgiving break!

## Math

Most Math classes have completed Clusters Two and Three. Students are adept at organizing and analyzing data, recognizing patterns, and completing algebraic functions! Cluster Three is all about Multiplication and Division so brush up on those Multiplication Fast Facts, kids! Students will be multiplying 2 and 3 digit numbers by a single factor. They will also be engaged in basic division. Although students will be exposed to strategies that will help them recall their facts, we encourage all students to practice their multiplication facts at home for mastery!

## Social Studies

Students are studying the American Indians of the Chesapeake Bay Region. We are studying their culture and how they used the Physical Features of the land to meet their needs and wants. This month we will also begin looking at the Europeans who first settled in what is now the state of Maryland. How appropriate that this is our focus as we look forward to celebrating the first Thanksgiving on November 26<sup>th</sup>!

## Science

Students in Mrs. Calvert's science class are beginning the unit entitled "Electricity and Engineering." They are faced with a real-life problem of having to create some type of technology to turn on a light and buzzer simultaneously. While working through this problem, they are also learning about electrical circuits, conductors, and insulators.

Students in Ms. Potash's class are beginning the "Force and Motion" unit in which we will use scientific skills and processes to explain the interactions of matter and energy and the energy transformations that occur.

## Schedule of Upcoming Events:

November 11: Conferences 4:05-8:05

November 18: Field Trip to The National Museum of American History

November 19: Conferences 4:05-8:05

November 23-27: Schools closed for students and staff

November 26: Thanksgiving