

Our Classroom News

Ms. Austin – Mrs. Berry – Mrs. Bygrave – Ms. Jackson

What's Happening This Month

- February Interims sent home
- February 17: Early dismissal students
- February 20: Professional Development Day (no school for students)
- DON'T FORGET YOUR "BOOK IT" READING LOGS!

Important Information

- As we move into the 3rd quarter, it is highly encouraged that you monitor your child's academic progress through Power School. Information on how to login to power school can be obtained from the front office. Students are made aware of all missing work. At this point in the school year, as we move them towards being ready for 5th grade, we do expect that students will make up missing work independently. All missing work will be scored as failing and labeled "missing".
- Please remember that Dreambox is not only a district required website for encouraging math growth, it is also a monthly grade for your child. The expectation of 60 minutes and 5 lessons is a minimum. The necessary time is given for students to achieve this goal. However, it might be necessary for students to login at home to ensure they meet the requirements.

A Peek At What We Are Learning This Month

ELA/ Writing

We have enjoyed our unit on persuasive writing – using an OREO template to remember that when giving our OPINION, we also need to state REASONS, and EXAMPLES. Students have written several opinion pieces – from asking Mrs. Hall for a school change to giving reasons why they should be allowed to have cell phones at school. We will be working on a biography soon (about someone they care about – hint, hint ...). Students will be asked to interview their loved one and craft an appropriate essay. We are also focusing on strategies to help us determine the meaning of new words. This is an area of concern for our students – and let's be clear. The more a student reads at home and at school, the more they broaden their vocabulary.

Math

We have moved from division to a study of using all four math operations to solve word problems. This is always a challenge, especially as we also use equations to solve "multi-step" worded problems. We will study patterns, shapes and numbers, and look for missing values before we launch into our fraction unit of study.

Science

We are still identifying the role of the Earth's rotation and revolution in both a 24 hour day and night cycle as well as a 365 day annual cycle that create our four seasons. We anticipate that we will also work on the unit on light and sound this month. Science standards for 4th graders are tested by the State, so we do need to adhere to our pacing guide so that we can move into life science before testing dates in May.

Social Studies

Students have enjoyed our unit on early colonization and are not learning about "taxation without representation" as students will begin to examine the issues that King George had in controlling his British citizens living in the New World (America). The stage is set for the Revolutionary War, and students will be using critical thinking skills to think about their own role in government.

Character Trait of the Month

Self Discipline was the Caughman Road character trait for the month of January. Self discipline is the ability to do the right thing even when we don't want to! Congratulations to our Comets of the Month: **Jared Stanberry, Kordale Burbage, Jehiel Puac, Kameron Malloy, Kelvin Ozuna, Eliana Ohene, Stephanie Rodriguez, and Andihely Reynoso!**