

Dasseaunia News

Ms. Rousseau's and Mrs. Day's Fourth Grade

Class website: <http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/ARousseau/>

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Curriculum Information

Math

- ★ This week in geometry, we will continue to look at geometric patterns and tessellations.
- ★ We have spent a great deal of time learning how to multiply multi-digit numbers in the past weeks. The children should be able to demonstrate their ability to multiply 2-digit by multiple digits at this point. Please encourage your child to practice this skill at home.
- ★ The kids are doing a great job with multi-digit multiplication. The biggest error stems from mistakes in basic facts. Please encourage your child to practice their basic facts and review their work.

Timed Math Tests: Please encourage your child to practice their basic facts. They are given 2 minutes to complete 50 basic fact questions for each operation (+, -, x, & /).

Social Studies

This week in social studies we will be exploring immigration to the United States in Unit Three Lesson Three. We will also look at the impact of immigration on the culture in the United States. On Friday, we take a look at how we adapted to different environments in the United States in Lesson Five.

Science (from Mrs. Bowling)

Students illustrated four kinds of fossils last week and also made a fossil to take home. We also discussed how fossil fuels form, the pros and cons of using fossil fuels, and alternative sources of energy. We are going to make posters this week.

Please look for Science updates by going to: www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/Mbowling

Language Arts

- ★ We are conducting research and writing about a particular state within our great country. Students will demonstrate their ability to take notes, paraphrase, and quote, organize a paragraph, and cite sources to complete this project.
- ★ We will be wrapping up Unit Four: Adjectives early next week. We will take Unit Assessment the Thursday (2/16) before break.
- ★ Each week have written one journal entry used to encourage your child to practice the skills discussed in grammar, reading, and writing. We continue to stress the importance of using "I" vs. "i" when referring to one's self; only indenting the beginning of a paragraph; and avoiding the use of "and, so, because, and but" to begin sentences. Please help your child read over their comments on these quick writes to help them improve as writers.

Classroom Information

Michigan Scrapbook: Scrapbooks look great!

There are still a few students who did not bring in their progress so far. It is important that students are working on this year-long project throughout the year. It is not something to save until May.

Dismissal: Please be sure to have the sign with your child's name on it posted in your vehicle when picking up your child. It is important to leave that sign on your visor until your child is placed in the vehicle. This helps the teachers get your child to the right car efficiently.

Scholastic Book Orders: Please return all February Orders by February 23rd. Please note the website below which allows you to place your order online using a credit/debit card. **Note:** March's book project is a genre of choice, however *Magic Tree House* books will not be allowed this time. The children are required to pick a book with at least 100 pages.

Go to the following website to place orders:

<http://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs>

One Time Class Activation Code: **HXL8C**

Outdoor Recess: Students will have outdoor recess unless the wind-chill drops below 10°. Please make sure your child has all their winter gear each day (hat, gloves, and boots, coat, and snow pants).

Reading

- ★ We will continue to look at non-fiction text as we complete our research project on a state within the United States.
- ★ We will begin "Book Clubs" this week. Please ask your child what book they choose to read for book clubs this time. During this Book Club, we will focus on making connections and going deeper in the text.

Important Dates

February 6: Terra Nova Testing Starts

February 14: Valentine's Day Activities

February 16: Spell Check Pledges Due

February 17: No School (Mid-Winter Break)

February 20: No School (Mid-Winter Break)

February 22: MCMA Open House

Happy Birthday to...

Henry: January 9th

Keegan: February 8th

Robby: February 13th

Sam: February 21st

Riley: February 23rd

Open Enrollment: Started January 30th, the Academy will begin open enrollment for the 2012-2013 school year. We would like to encourage you to invite any friends and family members that you think would make a nice addition to our MCMA family. Please encourage them to visit the school. The administration will give them a tour of the building and our wonderful students at work as well as provide them with the application information. Thank you for supporting our GREAT school!

We are in need of...

Items for classroom store

Kleenex

Wipes

Pencil top erasers

A big thank you to all of the students and parents who have contributed to both the classroom needs and the classroom store. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Report Cards: Report cards went home on Friday (1/27). Please feel free to contact us with any specific questions. These report cards are designed for us all to analyze your child's progress in certain areas of a specific subject. They allow us to get a more accurate picture of each child's unique abilities.

Spelling Bee Winners: Congratulations to **Keegan** (winner) and **Caitlyn** (runner-up) for their accomplishments in the fourth grade spelling bee. Keegan and Caitlyn's perseverance and spelling skills helped them to become the top spellers in fourth grade.

We are so PROUD of the entire class who did a nice job representing our class in the fourth grade spelling bee.

Open House: The school will be hosting an Open House on Wednesday, February 22nd. We would like to encourage you to invite any family and friends that you think needs to see the great things going on at our school.

Bowling Fundraiser: The Parent Guild bowling fundraiser is scheduled for February 12th. The fourth graders have been tasked with creating a sports themed gift basket. Please send your donation for this gift basket to school this week.

Spelling Bee Pledges: pledge forms need to be turned in. Students took their tests; they will be returned with pledge sheet, if participating, to collect their pledges.

Valentine's Day Activities: We will not be having a large party for Valentine's day. We have a few activities planned as well as will have a special lunch with treats. If you would like to send something for our special lunch, please check out the sign-up sheet that will be posted on February 6th. Jordyn will be brining in pizza to celebrate friendship with her classmates.

Barnes and Nobles Book Fair: The Mt. Clemens Montessori Academy Book fair with Barnes and Noble is scheduled for March 16th and 17th. The Book fair is a great time to purchase books and gifts for your entire family, and nearly every purchase can benefit our school. Save the date and plan to support MCMA. Promote reading in your home with books for everyone!

Lansing Field Trip: I was able to secure a field trip to our state capitol for Monday, June 11th. This will be a wonderful experience for the children. We will visit the Capitol building, the Historical Museum, the Hall of Justice, and the Impressions 5 Science Museum. This will be an ALL day event with a lot of WALKING. The permission slips went home last week. Please return your permission slip (w/fee) by February 10th. If you don't plan on having your child attend this field trip, please send in a note indicating this so we can open another spot on the bus for other chaperones. We are limited to the number of chaperones we are allowed to take with us on the bus. Once we have all of the slips in we will conducted a lottery to determine the seven chaperones who will ride the bus with us. More chaperones are allowed to attend, but will need to transport themselves to the capitol building. Hopefully, we will be able to put together a carpool if we have more chaperones interested than spots on the bus.

Pizza Lunch: On Monday, February 13th, Robby will be bringing in pizza, juice, fruit salad, and cupcakes to share with his classmates in honor of his birthday. It is up to you if you pack your child an additional lunch on this day.

Jump Rope For Heart: We will kick off the Jump Rope for Heart campaign on Thursday with a school wide assembly.

Work to Keep at Home: Please be sure you and your child go over the work that is sent home. We often make comments on assignments to help your child improve in the future. We spend a great deal of time reviewing your child's work to ensure they are getting necessary and immediate feedback. Please help us in ensuring your child reviews these comments.

Wax Museum: The February Book Project is a Biography Project. This project encourages the students to practice skills learned in reading, writing, and social studies to complete it. It is an involved project and rewarding experience for the students. The students will present the Wax Museum during the morning of March 16th. Project components are due on Friday, March 9th.

Junior Achievement: Ms. Finazzo has worked to coordinate a program for the fourth and fifth graders to further their understanding of social studies skills. Mrs. Moore has graciously volunteered to be the parent volunteer presenter of the information. We will begin this program on Thursday, February 8th. It will then continue for the next four weeks on Fridays. We look forward to learning more about the United States with in- depth look at its regions.