

5th Grade Cardinal Directions

October 19, 2009

Mrs. Williams Class

West Indianola
Elementary
785-286-8550

kwilliams@usd345.com

* October 20th
PTO 7:00

* October 21st
4th-6th Skate Party
at Sk8 Away 6-8
p.m.

* October 28th
Halloween Parties
Parent/Teacher
Conferences
4-7:30 p.m.

* October 29th
Parent/ Teacher
Conferences
8:00 a.m.- 7:00
p.m.

* October 26th-29th
Book Fair

* October 29th- 30th
No School

On Friday, I asked the students for some feedback on the first quarter. They gave me some great suggestions. We now have a song that I play during transitions to signal that we need to move to another activity. We hope this will help with transition noise. Also, one student declared, "I actually like to read now!" Yes!!! That is so exciting to me!

The students expressed interest in more project based learning, which I will try to provide whenever possible. This week's activities are below.

Reading: We are ready for new literature circle books.

The students will vote for books that they would like to read. They have expressed the interest in having more choice in their books, which is fine with me because all of the choices are great books. We will have some new jobs for lit. circles as well.

Spelling and Writing: We have some new spelling menu choices. We are also going to try to get some writer's workshop going this week and next.

Math: We will continue to focus on geometry this week. We only had a minute to touch on tessellations last week. We will continue with a great art activity using tessellations. We will also work on angle measures in polygons.

Science: We are starting a new science unit on mass and matter this week. I am excited about the hands on learning this will entail.

Social Studies: European Exploration

We will no longer have snack milk in our classroom. However, we will still have snack time. Snack milk causes class time to be interrupted, as students have to go and get the milk and pass it out. We have also had a few spills. Water bottles and snacks from home are still welcome. They have not been a disruption. Thank you for understanding the need to value our instructional time.

We are going to try gum again. Students may chew gum in our classroom as long as it is not a problem.

I am looking forward to meeting with you during conferences next week. Thank you for returning your yellow sheets to confirm your time. You may view the conference schedule on the class website in the newsletters section.

Spelling Words

CORE WORDS:

1. length
2. speed
3. machine
4. information
5. except
6. cereal
7. exciting
8. muscle
9. peace
10. circled
11. graceful
12. scene
13. though
14. partial
15. toward

CONTENT WORDS:

16. weight
17. matter
18. Aztecs
19. Incas
20. Florida

CHALLENGE WORDS:

21. desertion
22. conquistador
23. amateur
24. rebellion
25. appease

Red Ribbon Week Activities

There are themes for each day of this week to celebrate Red Ribbon Week.

- Monday- Wear boots
Tuesday- Wear hats
Wednesday- Silly socks
Thursday- Wear red
Friday- Wear sunglasses

We will have a guest teacher on Tuesday. I will be at an inservice. Please encourage "guest" behavior that morning as your child leaves for school. Thank you for your help!