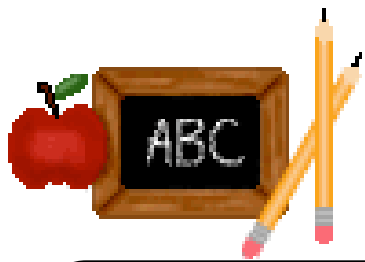
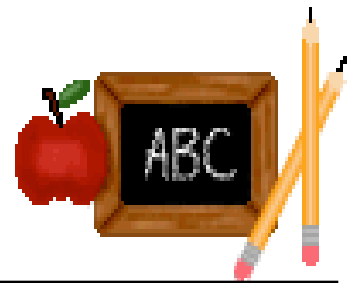


# 4th Grade News



Mrs. Shaw  
Room 22  
October 17, 2008



## curriculum update

**E.L.A.:** We all enjoyed viewing "E.T." and snacking away on Wednesday. We will now be moving in to our Guided Reading format of the ELA block which will include literature selections for small-group instruction from the Scott Foresman reading series.

**MATH:** As you have probably observed from the homework, Unit 2 in our math textbooks emphasizes estimating skills and mental math. The students are having to apply their rounding skills from Unit 1 in order to make reasonable estimates of sums and differences and then compensate in order to determine accuracy. Please continue to practice multiplication facts as all the kiddos are working to improve their "fact fluency," (speed and accuracy.)

**PUMPKIN MATH!!** I am planning a special Pumpkin Math Day on Thursday, October 30th. Students will work in small groups as they investigate (mathematically) various pumpkins. They will be measuring weight, circumference, density, etc. We need pumpkins - especially mid-size (good for Jack-o-Lanterns)! If you wish to donate a pumpkin, please send it to the classroom with your 4th grader any time before the 30th. THANK YOU!!

**SOCIAL STUDIES:** We concluded our study of Map and Globe skills with an assessment today. The grades will be recorded and applied to their report cards. The 4th Graders took a great interest in being able to identify longitude and latitude measurements of specific locations, differences between countries, states, provinces, cities, etc. Please continue to exercise these skills with map-practice when driving in the car or discussing different geographical spots for vacations, family/friend visits, etc.

## IN THE NEWS...

Before you sign-off on the Take-Home Binder Daily Log... please be sure that your child has written the day's assignments in her/his assignment notebook, checked that your child has in fact completed the assignment(s), reviewed any papers/letters located in the folder in the binder. THANK YOU!! (And I love the extra notes regarding when your child required assistance on homework or fun news from your family!)

Halloween (BOO!) is in two weeks! (It's scary how quickly our time is flying!) I will be contacting parent volunteers for assistance with the day's events, and I will also send a note home with details regarding the Oak Street School Halloween Parade (times, costume procedures).

## READ, READ, READ!!!

Please support our school-wide reading incentive program (Program Kick-Off will be on Tuesday, 10/21. Fourth graders should be reading approximately 20-40 minutes of text per day (beyond the school day), mostly in a solid or consistent block of time. I am encouraging students to make "just right" book selections for their reading abilities and interests. We will also begin our first Book Project of the school year. Instructions and materials for this project will be coming home on Monday, and the 4th graders will have one month to complete the assignment. Contact me if you need ideas for book titles appropriate reading levels, etc.