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4th/5th

C.A.P.

Class News

**October, 2017**

**Important Dates:**

**10/20 – PBS Fall Festival**

**11/3 – End of first marking period**

**11/3 – Spirit Day**

**11/10 – No school**

**11/14 – Curriculum Night**

**Teacher’s News:**

Both fourth and fifth grade students are given math homework nightly to reinforce the skills we have been focusing on in class. Students need to bring their math binders home nightly to use as a reference to help them when they are completing their homework. Their math binders contain notes we have taken in class as well as example problems.

I enjoyed meeting with the fourth grade parents during conferences last week. The students did an amazing job leading the conferences and sharing their leadership binder’s and sample pieces with their parents. I plan to meet with the 5th grade parents during our next round of conferences. If you would like to meet with me at any other time please don’t hesitate to contact me and we can set that up.

**ELA:**

Students are continuing to read their independent novels and discuss them with their small groups each week. They are really enjoying these books and meeting each week in literature circles to discuss them.

We have begun our first Problem Based Learning Project on the generalizations of change we have been studying. Students are investigating an endangered animal. Students came up with their “need to knows” and their driving questions which will guide their research throughout the project.

We have been reviewing the writing process and students have applied this knowledge to create very interesting fire essays. The fifth grade focused on fire safety in the kitchen and the fourth grade focused on dangers of matches, lighters and smoking materials. We have studied parts of speech, commas and conjunctions in compound sentences and fragments and run- ons. They are doing a wonderful job applying this knowledge to their writing pieces.

**5th Grade Math:**

Students completed their unit on multiplication and division. They have started their decimal unit. We will be focusing on decimal place value, rounding of decimals and addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of decimals.

**4th Grade Math:**

We began our factors, multiples and leftovers unit this week. Students investigated the properties of multiplication. We studied the different properties of numbers. Are they prime or composite? Odd or even? Square or not square? What are their factors? Students learned the rainbow method for finding factors. We also reviewed prime factorization of numbers. They also studied the different divisibility rules, which enable them to find factors of a number.