

Dear Parents,

Halloween was very present in the classrooms today! The entire day was filled with the Halloween theme. The children wrote Halloween stories, solved Halloween inference riddles, read Halloween books, and subtracted to create a Halloween picture. This afternoon we colored pictures of "Sugar Skulls", watched "The Book of Life", and enjoyed some wonderful treats coordinated by our room parents, Ravina Boeckler and Anamika Bennett. (Thank you so much for doing this!!) The children enjoyed visiting all the cars for "Trunk or Treat". It's been quite a day!!!

Next week, we will be starting our next Inquiry Unit, Cultures Contribute to the Development of Communities. Attached you will find the introductory letter for the unit. The children learn so much about their family and culture throughout the unit and there is a lot of work that they need to do. We have also attached a check off list with the due dates for some of the items the children will be bringing home to work on with you. In the next week, they will first go on a jamboard and tell us what countries their ancestors came from and which country they would like to inquire about. They will fill out a family tree, interview a relative, and share a story in "A Page from History".

Just because we finished our "Weather and Climate Affect Daily Life" inquiry doesn't mean we need to stop inquiring and taking action. We asked the children to put their action plans up so that they will remember to work on that action plan. We need pictures of them as they follow through on their plan and complete their action steps. We are including them on our bulletin board in the hall.

In reading, the children will be taking a break from reading Gasping Garbage (after we finish chapter 4) and moving on to books that go with our Inquiry Unit. The children will be put into groups based on their lexile level (as shown on MAPS). The books that we will be reading are "The Orphan of Ellis Island", "Molly's Pilgrim" and "The Matchbox Diaries".

Students have been hard at work drafting their personal narratives. Next week we will learn about adding dialogue using quotation marks and commas. They will have daily practice for homework and an assessment on Friday.

MobyMax is up and running for all 3rd graders to practice their basic facts. Students are required to do 5 minutes of practice a day. We are checking this daily. The goal is to master addition and subtraction facts first and then move on to multiplication and division. With the ultimate goal of knowing all of your math facts by the end of the year.

In our first Bullying Prevention Unit, the children learned how to recognize bullying. Next, we will focus on how to report bullying. Please complete the homelink that will come home Monday.

During the month of November, we will be focusing on gratitude during our morning meetings and setting goals. The children will be writing in gratitude journals in the morning and afternoon and completing other activities to show others their gratitude for them.

Monday, November 1st is an all school mass for "All Saints Day". Please have your child in their best formal uniform which means no hooded sweatshirts.

If you were absent for pictures or wish to have a retake, these are happening Tuesday November 2nd. Just bring your picture packet back. Don't forget to return your progress report envelope along with the parent reflection for fall conference form.

Have a spooky Halloween weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan