

Dear Parents,

Thank you to our wonderful parents who put on fabulous Halloween parties. All had a good time! If you haven't had a chance to sign up for conferences, be sure to do so soon. Spots are filling up. Also, complete the conference parent questionnaire. (both links are attached)

Next week is short and busy. Spelling will only be four days next week due to our day off on Friday for Veteran's Day. We will not have grammar. We will celebrate Veteran's Day with an assembly on Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. Please invite any veterans you know to attend. Look at the Thursday WRAP for more information. All are invited.

Next week, we will be exploring plant life cycles. We will learn that all flowering plants start out as seeds, grow, and must be pollinated to grow new baby plants. We will play a game that explores how changes to pollinators in a garden result in changes to the life cycles of the plants. We will also be going up to our garden to look at the plants we grew from seeds in the classroom and then planted there to see how they are doing.

You can extend your child's learning by paying attention to the life cycles of the plants around you. Can you spot a bee stopping at a flower at the park? Ask your child what will happen to that plant next. Does the orange you're eating have seeds in it?

The children are well on their way to helping Drake and Nell solve mysteries in "The Case of the Gaspung Garbage." For every two chapters (one mystery started and solved in those two chapters), they are given new vocabulary words to learn and are tested on those words when we finish the mystery. They are learning how to use RAP (restate the question, answer the question, prove your answer), a comprehension strategy that helps children give well-thought-out and complete answers to questions about the text. We will be having them use this same strategy when they answer questions in all the subject areas.

We are coming to the end of our "Crafting Personal Stories" unit in the next couple of weeks. Each student has a draft of their story. We are now doing the hard part of revising to add to the heart of our stories. Our writing process is getting messy as we reconstruct our stories to improve them. We are cutting out parts and adding new ones. Once this process is complete, we will begin the editing process. Final drafts will be due no later than **Friday, November 17th**.

11/4 - Bingo Bash (6:00 pm)

11/8 - Mass grades 3-8 (8:45am)

11/9 - Veterans Day assembly (9:00 am) - Families and Veterans invited!

11/10 - No School - Veterans Day

11/13 - 27 - Book Fair in the auditorium

11/20 - 22 - Student-led Conferences (In-person)

11/23 - 24 - No School - Thanksgiving Break

12/1 - End of first trimester

12/8 - Report cards go home

12/8 - All-school Mass (9:30 am) Feast of Immaculate Conception

12/13 - Christmas Program (6:30 pm)

12/15 - Advent Prayer Service in the auditorium (8:35 am)

12/18 - 12/29 - NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break

Enjoy the extra hour of sleep this weekend,

Susan Smith and Valerie Sheehan