



## Fourth Grade Post

### *Reminders!*

- Thank you to those who were able to come with us to the **Mill Valley Film Festival** to see *As the World Toons*. We had a wonderful time enjoying short films from all over the world.
- **Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up! Parent Conference Days are Friday 10/18 and Monday 10/21.** Please look for the sign up sheets that will go home with your children.
- **CARRADE'S CLASS needs drivers** to Olompali in Novato. The field trip is on **Friday, 10/25 from 9:00am-2:00pm**. We will be walking on a trail loop, so make sure to bring your hiking shoes!
- To get a glimpse into the wonderful world of 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, check out our private **class instagrams**. You won't be able to see any of the pictures unless you request to "follow."  
Ms. Carrade's: ms.carrade  
Ms. Thompson: ms.thompsonwca

### **Homework**

As we are learning the expectations for 4<sup>th</sup> grade, keep working on completing all homework assignments the night they are given and ready to be checked the next morning. This includes the nightly math work, reading comprehension question, and parent signature. On days where there is writing homework, there will be no math or reading to complete (signature is still needed though).

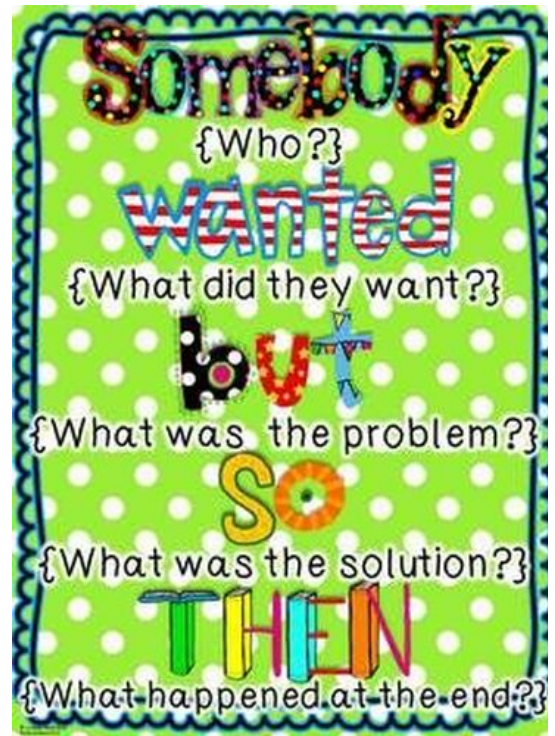
### *SMART Foundation*

THANK YOU if you've already contributed to the WCA SMART Fund! We are not asking for any donations to the classroom this year. So if you want to contribute to the supplies in the classroom, and of course the Specials classes, please just donate directly to the SMART Foundation. That money gives us the classroom budget to do the amazing things we love to do with your kids everyday!

To make a donation online, please go to <http://www.WillowCreekAcademy.org/donate>

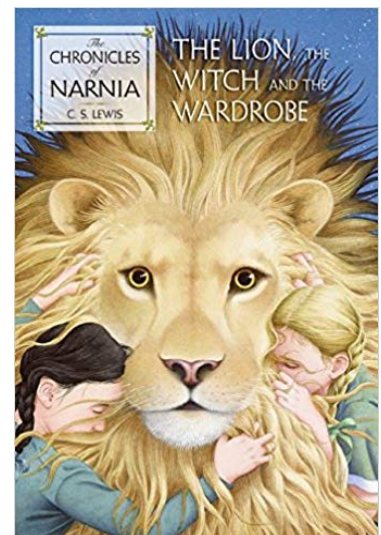
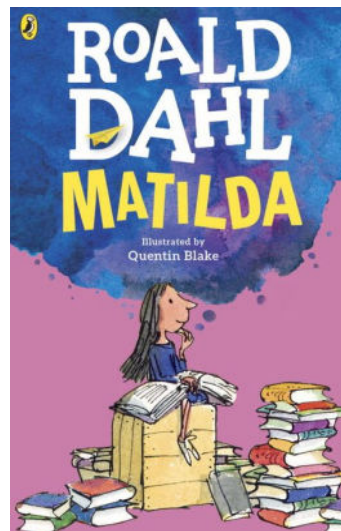
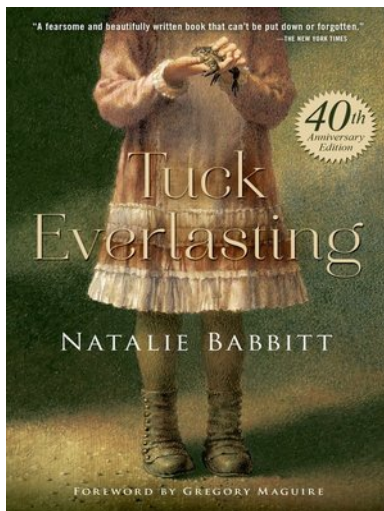
## ELA

This week we continued exploring the relationship between Jessie and Evan during their bet, while studying economic terms. We talked about the terms “negotiation” and “malicious mischief.” We read the chapters 9 and 10, and discussed such topics as “*Was the negotiation between Evan and Jessie successful?*” and “*Do you think Evan or Jessie is regretting the lemonade war?*” We continued to focus on summarizing (main idea and details), figurative language, vocabulary, and character traits. Ask your child to correctly identify the figurative language in this sentence: “Jessie was all in knots.”



## Daily 5

We continued working in our guided reading groups and at Daily 5 stations. We introduced our technology station. One of the websites we used was Storyline Online. It is a website where students can listen to actors read aloud different stories. Then the students write a summary about what they heard. Our book groups are going great and some groups have even been able to perform jobs in their literature circles. In literature circles, they are working towards being leaders in their own discussions while gaining a deeper understanding of the text



## Math

*Continuing in this week's Friday Post, you will get a **preview** of the math lessons to come for the following week (instead of a review of the content learned). This way you can use this Friday Post as a tool this upcoming week to support your child with their math, should you need it as a reference.*

Next week students will return to doing multiplication and now are doing more 2 digit x 1 digit multiplication, breaking down the first number into easier multiplication expressions. For example:  $18 \times 7 = (10 \times 7) + (8 \times 7)$  this way students use easier facts to solve bigger ones so:  $18 \times 7 = 70 + 56 \dots (126)$  Students have been representing this using arrays and pictures.

This shows students how to decompose higher numbers to friendlier numbers, and reveals patterns among all numbers so students always can use something they know to get to the desired answer. Rote memorization is not the only way! Cheers to that :)

*We are noticing all students really need to review their multiplication facts. You can tremendously support your child at home by practicing math facts, skip counting (3, 6, 9, 12...), and having them practice with fun games on this free website: <http://www.fun4thebrain.com/mult.html>.*

*Students are set up with Dreambox this week. Please encourage them to log in to their account and play!*

## Science/Social Studies

In Science this week we explored out the structure of the eye and how it functions. Students made a model of an eye using a lens to simulate a cornea lens, and the retina. Students discovered that when they held the two too close together, or far apart, the image was blurry. But at the perfect distance, the image showing through the cornea lens was crisp. This led them to discover that people who have blurry vision have it because the shape of their eye makes that distance between the cornea lens and retina either too close or far apart. But that if a second lens is placed in front of the cornea lens (like glasses or contacts, sound familiar?) then the eye can see clearly.

Then students did a "shoebox" simulation discovering how important light is for the eye to see. It has been a very engaging week in Science!

The Driving Question:

*As biologists in our animal sanctuary, how can we rehabilitate an injured animal to live as independently as possible?*

## **Writing**

We had such an amazing celebration on Monday! We had Café treats and presented our narratives while working on speaking and listening skills. Later this week, we began writing another narrative, this time going quicker through the steps and typing our draft instead of handwriting the story.

## **Specials:**

Below are the schedules for PE. Make sure on these days to wear appropriate shoes and clothing.

**Carrade:** Tuesday 11:20-12:00 and Thursday 2:20-3:00

**Thompson:** Monday 2:20-3:00 and Tuesday 11:20-12:00

## **Contact:**

If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to e-mail us at [athompson@willowcreekacademy.org](mailto:athompson@willowcreekacademy.org) or [jcarrade@willowcreekacademy.org](mailto:jcarrade@willowcreekacademy.org).