

Fourth Grade Post



Reminders!

- Picture Day is **Thursday, September 26th**.
- **Both classes need parent volunteers (3 for each class)** to join us on **Friday Sept. 27th from 11-12** to talk about how they use math in their job. The students love hearing from parents on how they use math in their jobs.
- We have a field trip to the **Mill Valley Film Festival** on **Friday, October 4th**. We will leave on a bus at **9:00 and be back by 1pm**. We have enough volunteers, so thank you to the parents that were able to sign up.
- To get a glimpse into the wonderful world of 4th 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 4th 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 relationship not just between siblings, but between friends and classmates as well. Also, we talked about the economic terms “competition” and “gross” and “net” income. We read the chapters 5 and 6, and discussed such topics as “Where do you see business competition in your everyday life?” We continued to focus on summarizing (main idea and details), figurative language, vocabulary, and character traits. Ask your child to act out the word menacing or pulverize! *Below are some of the businesses that compete examples the classes came up with!*



Daily 5

We finished up MAP testing this week, and will be starting reading groups next week!

Math

Next week we continue our unit on data and graphs by creating our own data survey questions. Students develop this question with a partner, and then ask two different groups of students: their class and the remaining fourth graders. From there, students figure out how to graph both sets of data on one graph and analyze their findings. Students will be able to see where **"there was a great deal of data/a clump of data/a concentration of data"** and **who were "outliers."** Students will continuously practice this vocabulary to analyze their work, and justify their thinking.

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>.

Science

In our Science unit this week we continued to study the structures and functions of living things in the four California regions.

The students were given animals from California and created a poster that explained not only the structures that allow the 5 senses (sight, hearing, taste, touch, and smell), but how they function. As a class, we chose one of the posters and as a class wrote a paragraph about the connection between structure and function. On Friday, we practice using our noses (structure) to guess scents (function). After, we became salmon and navigated up stream using our sense of smell.

The Driving Question:

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

Writing

As we continue our narrative writing unit, we focused on writing and revising our scenes. For each scene, we made sure it had **action**, *dialogue*, and detail. We “turned on the light” by adding setting description into dialogue, and finally looked at mentor texts to help guide our leads and endings. Ask you child to summarize their 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, or jcarrade@willowcreekacademy.org.