

Fourth Grade Post

Reminders!

- There will be **NO SCHOOL February 18th to February 22nd**. The students will need to complete 4 days of reading 40 minutes (using the agenda), 1 hour of Dreambox, and SS Weekly Week 18.
- We have our next Field Trip on **Thursday, March 7th to SF MOMA**. We will be leaving at 8:30 and returning at 1:30. WE NEED DRIVERS! Please reach out to your room parent if you are interested.
- We are having conferences **Friday, March 22nd from 8:00-4:00, and Monday, March 25th, from 1:00-4:00**. Conferences are these days because when they are before, during, or after school, it is challenging for teachers to be as present to discuss your child's learning. Thank you for understanding.
- We encourage students to **do at least 45 minutes of Dreambox a week outside of class to help reinforce and build fluency in math skills**. This allows students to get practice in areas we may not be covering in a current unit, but where a student may need specific support. Its game based, iPad app compatible if you have one, and teachers can see how students are progressing and where in class we can build in more differentiated support.
- 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

We are continuing to work on making sure all homework assignments are completed and that students are being proactive in getting parent signatures.

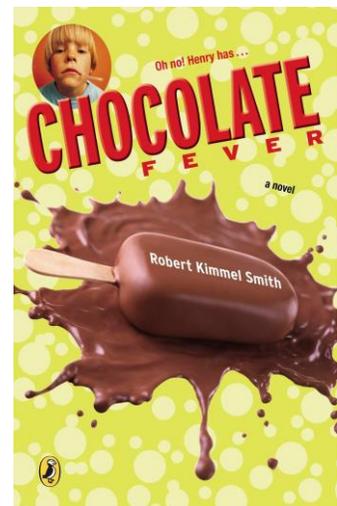
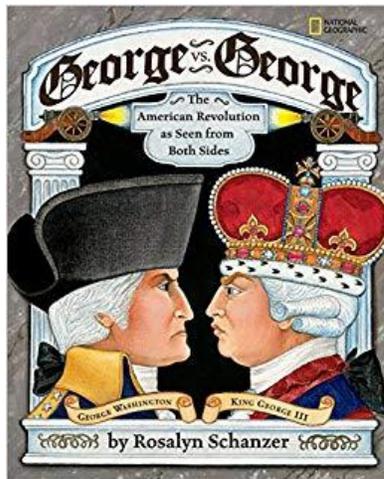
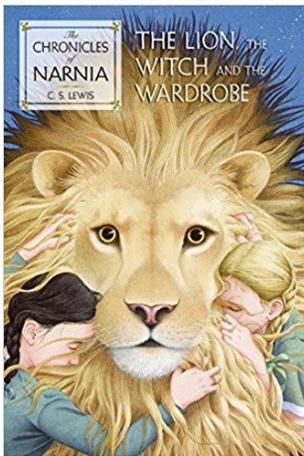
ELA/Social Studies

We finished our California Missions unit this week. Students gave their presentations, where they displayed and explained their location, layout, and design for the 22nd mission. After the break, we will be starting the book *By the Great Horn Spoon* during ELA and will begin to learn about the journey to statehood (Mexican- American War, Bear Flag Revolt, the Gold Rush, and the Monterey Convention) in California for Social Studies.



Daily 5

We are working on many different comprehension skills using different authentic texts. Ask your child what they read this week! *There will be a spelling test each Friday on the word pattern from the week. Students will either have 5, 10, or 15 words for the week to study.*

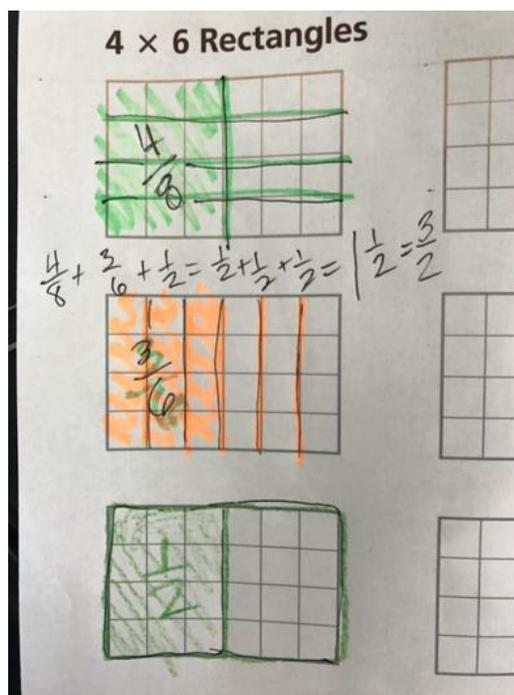


Math

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.

We will continue our unit on fractions! It is so important to check your child's math book for examples and here for information on how to support him/her with fractions. The students are learning fractions in a very different way than we did. Next week we are adding and subtracting fractions. When we add fractions that have different denominators (the lower number), we actually take one of the numbers and find an equivalent. For example:

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{4}{8} + \frac{3}{6} =$$
$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 1 \frac{1}{2}$$



Notice how we didn't try to find the common denominator. We could see that the numerator was half of the denominator, and according to our class observations, that always makes it a half. We're trying to have students focus on patterns in fractions than performing an operation to make them all have common denominators. Which is the opposite of what we, as adults, were taught! We promise, kids love fractions now.

Fraction Rules We Know!

- If the numerator is bigger than the denominator, the fraction is larger than 1. [$\frac{5}{2}$, $\frac{6}{4}$, $\frac{7}{5}$, etc.]
- If the numerator and denominator are the same, they equal 1. [$\frac{2}{2}$, $\frac{4}{4}$, $\frac{6}{6}$, etc.]
- If the numerator is half of the denominator, then the fraction is equal to $\frac{1}{2}$. [$\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{6}$, $\frac{4}{8}$, etc.]
- If the numerator is twice the denominator, then the fraction is equal to 2. [$\frac{4}{2}$, $\frac{24}{12}$, $\frac{22}{11}$, etc.]

Science

This week we finished our geology unit! The students worked hard to make their PSA about one of the three natural hazards that we studied. Be on the lookout in the next couple of weeks for a YouTube link that contains your child's PSA! After break, we will begin our physical science unit on transfer of energy. 😊

Informational Videos:

Tsunami: <http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/101-videos/tsunami-101>

Volcano: <http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/101-videos/volcanoes-101>

Earthquake: <http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/101-videos/earthquake-101>

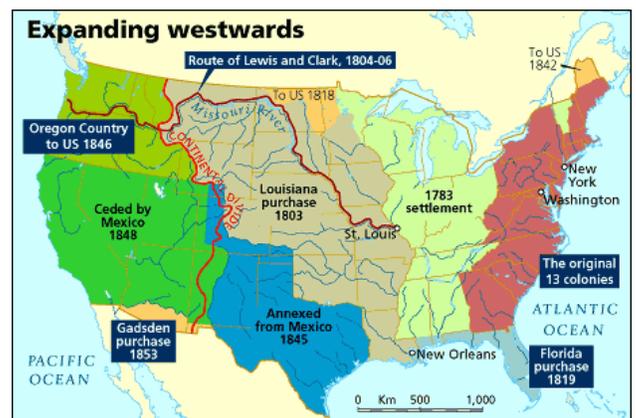
The Driving Question:

As Geologists, how can we help prepare a community so that a natural hazard does not become a natural disaster?

Writing/Social Studies

Continuing in this week's Friday Post, you will get a **preview** of the writing 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 writing, should you need it as a reference.

We will introduce our driving question next week for our new unit. *“As historical writers, how can we share with others how California became the 31st state?”* We will learn about the Mexican War of Independence, The Bear Flag Revolt, and the Mexican American War. For the Bear Flag Revolt, we'll created telegrams describing the event in 3 sentences or less! Then, we'll debate the point of views of the Mexican American War/ The American Invasion by reading articles from both sides and holding a debate to discuss who was at fault for the war (America or Mexico). We will focus on how current day California is shaped by Manifest Destiny.



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.