

Fourth Grade News

Week of September 10, 2018

Unit 1: Spiritual Literacy

This unit we will be focusing on spiritual literacy, looking specifically at systems, interdependency, and rights and responsibilities. The past two weeks we have spent time getting to know each other and getting acclimated to fourth grade. Students should now understand the expectations for fourth graders.

Math: This week we dove into our 4th grade math curriculum. We will begin with place value up to one million. Students will review how to represent numbers in various ways and how to identify and complete number patterns. We will also be learning about number bonds to help students to decompose numbers, improve their mental math abilities, and to review addition and subtraction. We will soon begin our multiplication timed tests. Every Wednesday students will be tested on their multiplication facts, beginning with 2. They should be able to complete 60 problems in 2 minutes or less with 100% accuracy in order to move on. Students should complete up to 12 by the end of the year and will be rewarded a certificate. Students will also begin to learn how to draw models to help them solve problems.

Science: We will begin understanding what it means to be a scientist through the observation of the world around us as we begin our unit on weathering and erosion. We will observe a simulation of erosion and look for signs of weathering and erosion around our school community. Then we will further our understanding about water, wind, and chemical erosion.

Social Studies: We will look at the rights and responsibilities of communities and what it means to be a citizen in the classroom and in our community. While looking at the connection between rights and responsibilities, students will come to understand in order to have rights, certain responsibilities must be fulfilled. They will see this in the classroom and in the larger context of society as we analyze the Bill of Rights. We will specifically spend time on the first amendment and how these rights empower us to make a difference.

Reader's Workshop: This is a group of voracious readers, masha'Allah!! They have very good reading stamina! This week, students started participating in their small group book clubs. During book clubs students work on reading strategies and improving their fluency, accuracy and vocabulary development.

Writer's Workshop: We begin with small moments and personal narratives. Students will focus on thinking of people and places that are important to them to generate ideas for their personal narratives. We will begin grammar soon with a focus on types of sentences, subject and predicate and writing in complete and descriptive sentences. We are also spending a few days each week practicing writing in A-B-C paragraph format. This is a basic paragraph format that we learn early on in order to build upon it as we move through the year.

Word Study: In 4th grade, students take weekly spelling/vocabulary tests. The goal of word study this year is to increase the student's vocabulary and ability to decode unknown words, as well as increase their desire to learn and use new vocabulary words in their daily speaking and writing. Depending on the week, students will either be given an individualized list or gather their own words. They will be responsible for learning the spelling and meanings of these words and will take a weekly test with a Word Study Buddy. Please check the weebly for upcoming test dates.

4th Grade Inspiring Individuals:

These students are exemplars in displaying what it means to be an inspiring individual. These students display kindness, compassion and care towards their class community, and are motivated to be the best learner they can be!

Ayesha Rahman (4A)

Mohamed Ali and Hamna Malik (4B)