

MARCH NEWS

Dear Parents,

Happy March! We are looking forward to seeing everyone at conferences!

Our school's biggest fundraiser, Knowledge-a-Thon, will commence this month on Friday, March 20th! Once your child receives his/her question packet, please begin this ever-important studying. Questions are specifically designed to review the most important concepts and content from fourth grade. In fact, students will be tested on these 100 questions in their specific classes for a grade as well as on KAT day (April 24th).

Students continue to do well with expectations set forth. As the year progresses, expectations change and evolve, but we are always clear with the students on these expectations. Please continue to work on homework and study strategies with your child and guide your child to do his/her best! Please continue to check Infinite Campus for your child's current progress as well.

Science: We continue our study of Electricity. Students greatly enjoy the hands-on approach to this unit as we study and "build" various types of circuits. We will read our first science biography on Michael Faraday to coincide with this unit.

History/Geography: We started our study of the American Revolution and will focus on the causes of the revolution as well as famous people and battles of the revolution.

Stories/Poetry: Our stories and poems will connect to our study of the American Revolution. We will read *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* as well as the poems "Paul Revere's Ride" and "Concord Hymn."

Greek/Latin Roots: We have studied thirty roots thus far. Knowledge of root meanings will be a cumulative process, so consistent review is important.

Spelling: We continue with spelling four days a week with tests every fifth lesson. Students should focus on implementing their spelling rules as well as studying words from the four most recent lessons and word list. Please continue to build in spelling review at home.

Handwriting: We finished our instruction of all cursive lower and upper case letters. An all-cursive requirement has been implemented for the remainder of the year. As a general guideline, any final work being turned in will need to be in cursive, but print is allowed in math, spelling, Spanish, and various note-taking tasks. We will always be clear with the students.

Writing: We continue with our research papers. Students have done an impressive job with their note-taking and paraphrasing skills. We continue to go through the process step-by-step, and by the end of the month, the students will have a completed research paper! Stay tuned for final deadlines!

Grammar: Students will be classifying pattern two sentences, which contain direct objects. We will also examine various verb tenses as well as study regular and irregular verbs. Vocabulary words and analogies will be taught, and editing exercises will be completed as well.

Sayings and Phrases: Students are introduced to one saying per week. When provided with the meaning, students should be able to recall the saying.

Schroeder News - Math/Reading: In math, we are through Lesson 85 and Test 16. My math students are firm with their computation skills, but I encourage all students to read directions carefully as well as show all necessary work! In reading, we continue with our Reading Mastery IV lessons, and we are through Lesson 95. Students continue to have a checkout and mastery test every 10 lessons. Please be sure your child is receiving enough oral reading practice at home as the words per minute expectations have increased to 150! For homework, students are encouraged to reread passages in order to effectively answer workbook and textbook questions.

Coenen News - Math/Reading: My reading class will be entranced with the adventures of *Treasure Island*. For the month of March, we will continue working on descriptive and summary writing. In math class, we have slowed our pace in order to reteach some specific skills that were causing troubles, especially complicated division problems. There are a few students who are not getting their work checked, so they are staying in at recesses to practice. In addition, there are a few students who still need to practice their facts at home.

Here are a few dates to put in your calendar for the month of MARCH:

- Tuesday, March 3 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Thursday, March 5 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Wednesday, March 11- Opera for the Young (9:30am)
- Friday, March 20 - KAT Kickoff!
- Thursday, March 28 - End of Quarter 3
- Friday, April 3 - Pegasus Flyers WITH Report Cards
- Saturday, April 4 through Sunday, April 12 - Spring Break

Please check out the Classical School website at www.classicalcharter.com!

If you have any questions, concerns, or other information to share, please email Mrs. Schroeder at schroedersara@aad.k12.wi.us or Mrs. Coenen at coenentheresa@aad.k12.wi.us. It is truly important to maintain open communication for the success of the educational environment.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Schroeder and Mrs. Coenen