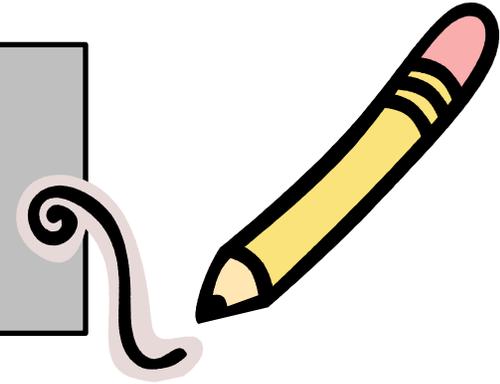


The C³ Monthly:

Carvalho's Classroom Communicator



Mrs. Carvalho's 4th Grade •September 2013

Welcome to my Monthly Newsletter!

I will be sending home this newsletter monthly as well as posting this as a PDF file on my website.

My goal is to keep my student's families as informed as possible about what their child is learning in the classroom. Please, let your child know you are aware of things going on in their classroom! Ask them questions about what they are learning, let them explain things to you, have them teach you how to do something we've learned. You will be deepening their learning and improving their communication skills at the same time!

And the best part is that they feel the pride in knowing that you are interested in what they are doing. By asking them questions about their learning, you also give them the message that what they learn in school is valuable!

What you will find in each newsletter:

- What we are working on across the curriculum
- Important, upcoming dates to remember
- Helpful links/websites/at-home ideas
- News from the classroom

New and Improved Report Cards Are Coming!

This year, you will notice that the report cards have changed slightly. What is different? Well, as the entire country shifts to follow the Common Core curriculum, we needed our report cards to reflect that we are teaching our students in accordance with the Common Core, as well as the additional learning standards that Massachusetts sets forth. The report card is also designed to be easier for parents to determine what their students are expected to learn and how they are doing in reaching expectations.

The first trimester ends on December 4th.

What Are We Learning About?

ELA-In the area of English/Language Arts, Mrs. Carvalho's students are working hard on their first story in the anthology called A Visit with Grampa. We are learning about determining the setting by using story details and then we will discuss describing a character's traits using story details and evidence. We are also establishing our weekly routines for vocabulary and spelling instruction and word study.

Writing- Students have been writing, as we do A LOT in 4th grade. We have written about our goals for the year, our favorite summer memory, the setting of our homes, and we even started working on how to explain our thinking when answering a math word problem. We will continue to write daily for a variety of purposes!

Math-Students are using the study of arrays to learn about factors, prime and composite numbers, and developing their multiplication fact fluency. Most students need to put a lot more effort into their math facts, so please support me in expecting them to practice DAILY. This is truly the only way to see improvement.

SS/Science-Students are learning map skills, which is always a fun one for the students!

A BIG thank you to ALL of the very generous families who have donated supplies to our classroom. From wipes to tissues to dry erase markers and various other supplies we go through often, I gratefully appreciate any and all classroom donations. Thank you so very much.



Any questions? Concerns? My email is carvalhoc@seekonk.k12.ma.us

Be sure to frequently visit my website:

<http://carvalho4th.weebly.com>

Supply Alert: Some students still need to get a sturdy BOOK BIN—or as some call it a magazine holder. The paper ones will not last long. If you can purchase the stronger plastic or METAL book bins, please do so. Our desks and cubbies are just not big enough for all of the books, workbooks, folders and notebooks we have. Book bins help students stay organized and readily access their folders and learning materials. Thanks!! Donations of book bins are ALWAYS WELCOME as many break during the year.