

Upcoming Events:

- Thursday, November 5th: Dress Rehearsal Wax Museum (please bring all props and costume items)
- Friday, November 6th: Wax Museum
- Wednesday, November 11th: Veteran's Day (NO SCHOOL)
- Thursday, November 12th: Field Trip (Planetarium & African American Museum)
- Friday, November 13th: Junior Achievement (All Day activities from community leaders)
- Canned Food Drive: Nov 9-20 (yams and corn)
- Toothpaste Collection: Nov 9-20 (for Hangers, the EVSC Clothing Bank)

*Our class website (www.nanceninjas.com) has been updated for important upcoming dates, the Items to Collect and Math pages, and has lots of pictures added to the Science and Our Class pages.

*Mrs. Schefer's class website (www.wtsparks.weebly.com) has also been updated with upcoming dates, pictures, and Social Studies web-based links.

We have a **Field Trip** next Thursday, November 12th to the Planetarium and African American Museum. The permission slips came home yesterday. There is a \$5 fee to cover the buses and admission to both locations.

In **Math**, we are currently working on dividing decimals. Our test will be Thursday. The skills on this test include:

- Using estimation to determine decimal placement
- Dividing mentally by 10, 100, and 1000
- using long division to divide a decimal by a whole number

The website (www.nanceninjas.com) has detailed examples to help your child practice at home.

The following unit is one that many students will need to practice at home- Fractions! From the time we start Nov. 16th until approximately the end of January, we will cover all of Fraction Number Sense (equivalent fractions, simplifying, common denominators, comparing fractions, ordering fractions on a number line, converting between mixed numbers & improper fractions), as well as cover Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, and Dividing with Fractions & Mixed Numbers. It's A LOT!! We haven't had homework often, but we will at least 1-2 times weekly for much of that unit. It will help if you practice and review these skills at home. I have already started reviewing the 4th grade skills with them during our Daily Math Review to help them remember the skills they have already learned. I will also update the Math page of the website as soon as this Decimal Division unit is complete later this week.

In **Science**, we have started learning the names of the major bones in the body. They have a "Bone Names" sheet in their math notebook and an extra one in their folder to study. Last week, we focused on which bones and joints are used in various activities and movements, such as jumping rope or throwing a ball.

This week, we are concentrating on how all of the bones fit together, and the function of the skeleton (structure/shape, protection, and movement). Next week, we will start the Owl Pellets. It will take about two days to separate all of the bones and clean them up, and another 1-2 days to put the skeletons back together.

In ***Reading and Writing***, we are wrapping up our unit on biographies (main ideas and key details / evidence). Test Wednesday! Wax Museum on Friday!

Parents are welcome to visit the Wax Museum at these times:

10:00, 10:30, 1:00, and 1:30. Teachers will give directions at the start of each presentation, and times are tight. Please be mindful that students are unable to have conversations with you, they are to remain in character so they do not disrupt others. Each student has one minute to present and guests will rotate each minute to a new leader. All students will be presenting at the same time.

AT HOME:

They are practicing using a clear, expressive voice at a low volume. Classrooms from all over the school will be visiting as well. They have worked hard, and are excited to present these. In these last few days, they can practice their 1-minute speech at home. Help them to enunciate certain words, and pause so that the listener understands what they are saying.

Our next unit is INFERRING:

Determining what the author is trying to say by using CLUES + EVIDENCE. They will analyze both informational and literary text. (folk tales, poetry, narratives, informational science and history)

Some strategies they will use are:

- Analyzing the author's opinion using reasons and evidence from the text.
- Identifying the main ideas and themes by inferring.
- Highlighting clues in the text.
- Quoting the author as evidence.
- Comparing both literary and informational text about the same topic.

They will also continue to write short, persuasive pieces. The focus will be on using word choice for a specific audience, and editing and revising.