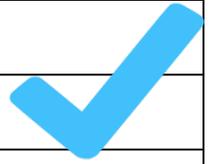


#512 NEWS letter

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------------|
| September 1 | Interims sent home |
| September 4 | Labor Day -No School |
| September 7-13 | Attendance Awareness Spirit Week |
| September 8 | Grandparents & Special Friends Breakfast |
| September 16 | Salem Elementary Spirit Night at NCFC |
| September 29 | Early Release at 1:15 pm |



POWER HOMEWORK

Thank You!

I have been so impressed with the level of participation since implementing the POWER Homework choices. I want to thank each of you for encouraging your child to complete the choices. I have heard very positive feedback so far, but please feel free to email me with any concerns or suggestions! This initiative is definitely a work-in-progress and I am open to your feedback!

VIP Tickets

Please make sure your child completes at least three homework choices per week. If they want to do more than three, that is great! Students will receive raffle tickets for every homework choice that they complete and turn-in. Every Friday we have a raffle drawing—this drawing determines which student will be our next VIP! The VIP student has a special seat in the classroom and earns a small box of goodies filled with some of their favorite things. Students can also earn VIP tickets for demonstrating acts of kindness, being responsible, earning extra SPOT tickets, and going above-and-beyond on their classwork.



NOTICE & NOTE

Field Trip Permission Form & Payment

This year we have two field trips! We will be going to the NC Zoo in Asheboro, NC and to the NC Symphony. A field trip permission slip was sent home last Friday in your child's SPOT folder. Please complete the front and back of this form and return it to school ASAP. You can submit your payment online, or send a check or cash to school with your child in the amount of \$38.00.

If you are interested in being a chaperone for our zoo field trip, please make sure that you are registered as a volunteer in Wake County Public Schools. You can register in the media center at Salem Elementary.

SEPTEMBER



R
e
a
d
i
n
g

Read-Aloud

Our September Read Aloud is *Wonder*, by R.J. Palacio. This is one of my all-time favorite books. The story is extremely moving and uplifting. The main character is August Pullman, otherwise known as Auggie. Auggie was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. This book goes along with our theme this year, "When given the choice between right or being kind, choose kind. Always."

What We're Learning...

Students are currently reading Realistic Fiction. Within this genre, students are making inferences, summarizing texts using the "Somebody, Wanted, But, So, Then" strategy. Students are also determining the theme of a text, and analyzing characters. Inferencing and theme are two of the most difficult reading skills to master in fourth grade! These concepts will be a weekly staple in our classroom to ensure that students are keeping their skills sharp!

Reading Centers

Each day our reading block begins with an interactive read aloud, which is the mini-lesson. This is a short lesson that is highly focused on modeling the current reading skill/strategy. During the read aloud students actively participate by writing responses and sharing their ideas. After the read aloud, students begin their centers. Each week there will be a variety of reading centers. Students are assigned their first center and can choose which centers to complete next. I have found that offering students choices really empowers them as learners and fosters more independence and responsibility. I have observed students setting timers for themselves to ensure that they are managing their time wisely and I have many students that check-in with me if they feel they need additional time to complete a task. This is wonderful to see! In the coming weeks I plan to begin using Seesaw and Flipgrid—these two educational resources will allow you to see what types of activities your child is working on at school during the reading block.

W
r
i
t
i
n
g

Small Moments...

Students have been working hard on writing their personal narratives! Each student chose a small moment that was special to them and expanded upon this event. Students have been focusing on writing strong leads, using adjectives and dialogue throughout their story, and finishing with a strong conclusion.

Students will be using time in September to extend their personal narrative writing strategies to write their very own fiction creation! Students will plan and develop characters as part of a plot and theme of their choice. At the end of September after making edits and revisions to both writing pieces, students will select either their fiction creation or personal narrative to publish. You can support your student by asking about the character traits for their main character in their fiction story. You can also ask your student about their story map including the exposition, rising action, climax, and resolution of their story.

M
A
t
h

House Project...Introducing, "Mini Architects"

I'm very excited about the math unit students will be studying this month. Students will be using their knowledge of multiplication, addition, area, and perimeter to design and build their very house! Students will be applying their problem solving skills and their ability to think critically and creatively to...

- choose a lot located in the triangle area based on their budget
- Select a floorplan that meets the needs of their family
- Select flooring options that are budget friendly, but high quality
- Choose appliances that are energy efficient
- Use their creative side to fully furnish their home



The unit standards will focus on the following skills:

- Adding multi-digit numbers using the standard algorithm.
- Multiplying using the area model and expanded notation. Students will multiply 1-digit numbers by both 2 and 3-digit numbers as well as multiplying 2-digit and 2-digit numbers.
- Applying addition and multiplication to finding the area and perimeter of regular quadrilaterals and rectilinear shapes

A copy of the "House Challenge" packet will be available on my website. More information about the portion of the project that needs to be completed at home, will be sent home soon! Stay tuned!

