



SECOND GRADE WEEKLY PLANS

OCTOBER 31, 2016

Virtues: Gratitude and Stewardship

TEACHER: MRS. MARTIN

TEACHING ASSISTANT: MRS. DOYLE

Read Aloud: The Tale of Despereaux

Dear Parents,

This month we will be exploring the virtues of gratitude and stewardship. There are many wonderful stories that illustrate these habits of the heart, and I hope to find time to read and discuss several of them. Two that I will start with are both personal favorites by Bill Peet: The Ant and the Elephant and Farewell to Shady Glade. The first highlights the importance of feeling gratitude in our daily lives and the latter is an age-appropriate representation of loss of habitat and the need for humans to be stewards of the Earth.

Language Arts: We have some more chapters to read for the Stories Julian Tells books this week. Some of the related skills and concepts include the use of compound words, quotation in dialogue, and pronouns. In addition to practicing skills used to increase general reading comprehension, we will look at how Ann Cameron gave her characters certain personalities. For example, if we have already decided that generosity is one of Gloria's character traits, then we can make a good prediction for how she might respond when Julian wants to ride her bike. In writer's workshop, it is time to try fictional narrative. We will start with a Halloween story. The children will be charged with writing from the perspective of one of the characters they created. This is another opportunity to work on character traits.

History: We will end our week with our Diwali party. In addition to trying some Indian treats, we will each make a diya, a rangoli and some doodh peta to bring home. Children, who would like to, may have a hand painted with a simple Mehndi design. I use tubes of herbal henna paste and the smell is sometimes offensive to seven-year olds! Also, though I have not seen problems, anytime you put a substance on skin, there is a possibility for a reaction. Please discuss this with your child before Friday.



Science: Dr. Faletra gave me some microscopes to keep in our classroom and we are using them to full advantage as we study Anton Leeuwenhoek and cells. By the end of the week we will move on to the digestive system in humans.

Math: Model drawing continues. As I have explained to the kids, even if you "know" the answer, it is very important to do all the steps in the process so that you can rely on model drawing when the problems become more difficult. Before long, the word problems will look like this:

Suzie's library has 31 books about birds. There are 12 fewer books about plants than books about birds. There are 5 fewer books about fish than books about birds. What is the total number of science books in Suzie's library?

Reminders:

1. Reading Logs are due tomorrow. Spelling assignments are due on Wednesday.
2. **There is no school tomorrow, Tuesday, November 1st as it is a Faculty Workshop Day.** Your Halloween revelers can sleep a little later.
3. Friday, 11/11 is "Bring a Friend to School Day." Last Friday I put invitations in homework folders.

Be well, Marj