

4th Grade News

October 2020

Hello Families,

Well, September went by quickly, didn't it? It's hard to believe that we're in our second month of school already! We're off to a strong start, and I have a feeling this is going to be a great year.

We begin each day with a religion lesson, followed by Math. Most of what we've covered so far has been a solid review of last year's work. Please continue to work with your child on their basic math skills; it will make a huge difference if they have automatic recall of their addition and multiplication facts. Remember, IXL is always available, and there's nothing wrong with good old-fashioned flash cards! I have also been pleased to notice that kids enjoy the challenge of solving simple math problems, especially if they're trying to beat the clock. Give them a chance to show off their skills!

Our reading curriculum is quite intensive and time consuming. Fortunately, it covers many of the standards for Science and Social Studies as well as all of the Language Arts standards. You have no doubt noticed that the students still bring home the newspapers for Science and Social Studies. Time runs kind of short for those topics sometimes, so I encourage you to ask your child about the subjects in the paper. I'm sure they will be eager to share what they learned!

I'm sure you've heard that each student has a Chromebook this year, and we will make good use of them. Many of the kids have asked about bringing in headphones and their own computer mouses (or is it computer mice? I'll have to look that up.) My rule of thumb for the students is, "If it becomes a toy, it becomes a problem." Therefore, if they want to bring in some cheapo earbuds or a \$5.00 WalMart mouse, that's fine, but if it's too fancy I'll probably have them take it back home. Besides, I've got enough earbuds here for them each to have their own.

I've been very impressed with the students' ability to be flexible and adaptive in these new learning challenges, and with a little luck and a ton of cooperation we'll be back to "normal" soon.

Take Care and God Bless,
Chris Dahle