



Dear Families,

It's hard to tell whether it is fall or winter these days! It looks like warm weather is returning this week.

We are currently enjoying our Rome unit. Our Big Idea is "Ancient Civilizations Influence us Today." Students will be seeing how places and ideas from Rome like the Colosseum and representative government are still part of our culture today. We started the unit by looking at the geography of the region and the legend of Romulus and Remus. This myth is an explanation of how the empire was formed. Students have also learned about the gods and goddesses and read some of the myths. Next week they will start doing research on a topic in using the Roman Menu.

Students have been busy during writing time. Each child has published a story. Graded papers may come home with the initials for COPS (Capitals, Oral, Punctuation, Spelling) in the margin. This is to help students find their mistakes and make corrections. We are now working on writing a fiction story that will focus on organization. Students will develop the details for a beginning, middle, and end.

One of the favorite times of each week for third graders is Reading Buddies. This is the first year that the students get to be the older buddy. Later this month, the buddies will be writing and illustrating a Halloween story. It is lots of fun to watch the children work and read together.

We are finishing up our second math unit on addition and subtraction next week. The lessons are a review of the basic facts, extensions, and strategies for addition and subtraction with multi-digit numbers. We have been revisiting multiple strategies for solving math problems, so kids can become more flexible with their problem solving. The classes will continue to reinforce these strategies and basic facts throughout the year. Our next unit is on "Linear Measures and Area." We will start by looking at measurement with the U.S. Customary and the Metric Systems.

Students seem very excited about their Science Fair projects. We hope that it is a positive experience for all children. There is still plenty of time to work on the projects, but we want to keep you posted on the event. Display boards can still be purchased. Please remember that there is no requirement for information on display

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boards to be typed. Students will have the chance to present their project in class and practice their oral speaking skills. They will be assessed on how well they can explain their project to their peers and speak clearly rather than on the project itself. Also, please remember organic material can not be brought to the Science Fair. We are asking students to bring in their projects on Wed., November 4, so that there is time for them to share before Friday morning.

Each class will be celebrating Halloween on Friday afternoon. They may bring their costumes to school and then change after lunch. Plastic weapons should not be brought to school. There will be a short, school-wide assembly and parade starting at 1:30 pm. The classroom parties will begin afterwards. Each class will have stations with activities and a snack. Please feel free to join in the fun.

We are looking forward to meeting with you at parent-teacher conferences next week. We really appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,
Kimi Riter and Sara Weatherley



Upcoming Events

- **Mon. October 8th – Community Meeting**
A treat will be awarded to the class with the most representation!
- **Friday, October 30 – Halloween party**
- **Tuesday, November 3 - Rome Day**
1:00 – 1:30 Classroom Museum Presentations
1:30 – 2:30 Activity Stations
- **November 4 – Students bring Science Fair projects to school to share with classmates**
- **November 5 – Open House for Science Fair**
6:30 – 7:30
- **November 6 – Science Fair in the morning**