

Emerald News



Spring Fever

The weather is getting warmer and the year is coming to a close. Hopefully, the "third quarter slump" is behind everyone and fourth quarter will be bursting with new enthusiasm.

If you want to know what your son or daughter is doing in class, his or her homework pad is the best place to look. All assignments should be written in this book.



Class Up-dates

Science

Recently in Science, students have completed work in weathering and erosion, and a physics unit has begun. This unit of study will be quite active with many hands on lab activities and projects. The first project is called the "Rube Goldberg Machine". In this project, students work in groups to create a machine that will complete a simple, basic task in a complicated,

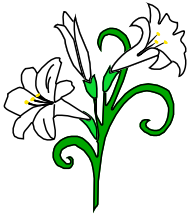
multi-step way. This project will be due in early May.

Language Arts

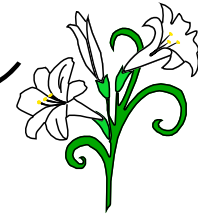
In Language Arts, Miss Haggerty has been working on a poetry unit. Students have been learning about poetic devices and looking at how authors use them in their writing. Students have also been using these devices in their own writing.

After spring vacation, Ms. Lazzari will be returning to classes, and students will be reading a new novel entitled The Giver. A calendar of all assignments and quizzes will be sent home along with chapter questions that students will be using as a study guide.

Students will also have an opportunity to work with a professional storyteller in their language arts classes. Tom Lee will be telling stories and helping students appreciate the art of storytelling, and the importance of keeping an audience's attention through details and suspense.



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Math

In math classes, students are working on geometry and spatial thinking. Students are working with two-dimensional and three-dimensional figures. The students

are excited to see what they remember from last year about geometry and apply their prior knowledge to newer topics. Students have also been working with different types of transformations on graphs. Students have been reviewing symmetry, reflections, rotations, and translations. Lastly, students are solving for areas and volumes of regular and irregular figures.

Geography

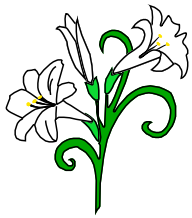
During 3rd term, Mr. Prell and his students covered Antarctica, Europe and the U.S.A. After spending the first half of the year learning about

maps, culture, governments and economies, students enjoyed putting their background knowledge to use. Much time and effort was devoted to developing map background knowledge. Additionally, students continued an exciting project in which they produced culturally themed art pieces and exchanged them with middle school students in Russia. Some students had the chance to video-conference with Russian students in March. In the near future, we hope to continue dialogue with our partner class in which we learn more about each other's cultures. Units of study for the remainder of the year will include

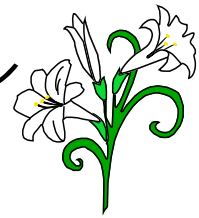
Middle/South America, Asia, Africa and Australia.



Dates to remember.....



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- ◆ April 16-20 /
Spring Break

- ◆ May 28 / Memorial Day

- ◆ June 19 / Last Day of
School