



Fourth Grade Newsletter
Tuesday, November 12, 2019

*Mr. Ledyard, Ms. Cole, Mr. Gold, Ms. Jensen, Ms. Buscher, Ms. Hunter, Ms. Quirin Pavetto,
Ms. Yedwab, Ms. Spence, Ms. Young*

General News

***Saturday, November 16, 2019** - Janney 5K & Fun Run: **We need runners and volunteers!!** It's not too late to register, but online registration ends this Thursday, November 14 at noon. You can still register in-person at the packet pickup days and times, but save your time and register online. For more information and to register, go to <http://www.janney5k.com/>.

We can't pull off the race without your help, and we need volunteers on the race day. If you are available, please sign up to help and cheer the runners:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090444adaa2ba64-2019>

Thank you, and hope to see you all on Saturday.

***On Wednesday, November 20 at 6:00**, the fourth grade will hold its ELA Content Night. Please plan to attend this evening to learn more about how we teach Reading and Writing at Janney. We will be discussing students' upcoming nonfiction research projects and how you can support them.

***On Thursday, November 21**, the fourth grade will go on a field trip to Mount Vernon. Please sign and return the field trip permission form as soon as possible.

***Scholastic Book orders are due by November 29.**

The offerings on the Scholastic Book Club website are much more extensive than the offerings in the flyer. The web address is: <https://clubs.scholastic.com/>

If your child is in Ms. Buscher's reading class, the class code is **RGMRZ**. If your child is in Ms. Spence's class, the code is **QDY4C**. If your child is in Ms. Cole's class, the code is **W7MY7**.

Reading

This is an exciting week in Reader's Workshop as we close out our Character Study unit and embark on our first of two nonfiction units this school year. On Tuesday and Wednesday, students will take an in-class assessment that will ask them to write about character traits, character change and theme in a new short story. We spent last Thursday and Friday reviewing in class for the assessment, so they should be well prepared.

Later in the week, we will start a nonfiction unit focused on reading informational texts. Students will explore our classroom nonfiction libraries and read texts on a variety of subjects. Over the next two weeks, students will select a topic that they want to study in depth. Families can help their students by talking with them about what subject they might like to read and write about for this project. In the past, students have been very successful when they have had a focused topic about which they could find texts appropriate to their reading level. Examples of topics fourth graders have studied are Helen Keller, mushrooms, penguins, the Boston Massacre and Pompeii.



Fourth Grade Newsletter
Tuesday, November 12, 2019

*Mr. Ledyard, Ms. Cole, Mr. Gold, Ms. Jensen, Ms. Buscher, Ms. Hunter, Ms. Quirin Pavetto,
Ms. Yedwab, Ms. Spence, Ms. Young*

Math

This week we will begin by learning how to convert measurement units within the metric and customary system. On Wednesday students will apply this skill in the context of a word problem. We will then review for our test on Thursday. **Our Unit 3 Test will be Friday, 11/15.** Please help your child review for the test by completing the review sheet that was sent home today. There is also an answer key; this way you can easily check your child's work.

Writing

We will begin to unpack our personal essay unit this week. We will set goals and learn and practice structures for planning an essay. In addition, we will brainstorm ideas for personal essays and turn them into quick writes. Ask your child: When brainstorming ideas for personal essays, what did you come up with?

Please remember to have your children practice keyboarding at home. Typing Agent is a great resource.

Science

It was great to meet our 4th-grade scientists last week. This week we will continue to practice the Habits of Mind that scientists use. Students will make and record close observations of an interesting object, then they will use magnification tools to make more detailed observations. They will practice making a detailed scientific drawing and use measurement tools to make precise and accurate measurements of their object. Students will also learn about the difference between observations and inferences and practice making a claim and supporting it with evidence.

The presentation slides we are using in class, "Thinking Like a Scientist" are linked below if you would like to follow along with what we are doing in class.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1hElN6fSkVWdvxiYhZTzPKz0oJQn7ocp-NirIJYy3Ak/edit#slide=id.p>

Upcoming Dates

November 19: Report cards go home

November 20: ELA Content Night (6pm-7pm)

November 21: Mt. Vernon Field Trip

November 27-29: NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving Break)