



**Fourth Grade Newsletter
Tuesday September 17, 2019**

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

General News

*Girls on the Run at Janney

Beginning school year 2019-2020, Janney will host one Girls on the Run season in the Spring. Please reach out to Liz DiCrosta at elizabeth.dicrosta@k12.dc.gov after Winter Break for registration information. Priority will be given to first time participants in grades 3-5.

*Scholastic book orders are coming home. Please check your child's Take Home Tuesday folder for an order form and directions on how to place orders.

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**. Scholastic offers a wide variety of engaging and inexpensive books at a range of reading levels. When you order books for your children, we also earn free books for our classroom libraries. Students are always so excited when the Scholastic boxes are delivered. Thanks for supporting your readers this way.

Reading

This week in reading, we wrap up our launching unit, where students practiced the routines and procedures of Readers Workshop. This was time well spent, as it requires a significant degree of student independence to allow teachers to facilitate small group instruction and individual conferences.

Next week, we plunge into our character study unit using *The Tiger Rising* by Kate DeCamillo as our mentor text. Teachers in each home room will read the book to their class and we will scrutinize the text more closely in reading class to analyze the characters and introduce the idea of theme.

Students will begin to use reading logs in class this week and will be bringing them home next week to use at home. They will be expected to read a Just Right Book for 30 minutes each day and log their reading. Please help them identify a place to do this work and keep their logs. Logs will be due back in the classroom on Fridays for us to reflect on our progress as a whole group. The reading log is their homework grade, so please support them in this work.



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Math

This week students wrapped up our first unit on Geometry and took their Unit Test on Tuesday. Thank-you for helping your student to prepare for their first assessment in math. Additionally, almost all students handed in their math homework on time. Way to go! (As a reminder, math homework is due on Tuesdays). **There was no homework assigned this week.**

Wednesday students will receive their tests back and will reflect on how they did after we go over it. We will end the week by starting our new unit, which is on place value. We will start off the unit by developing a strong conceptual understanding of the places. Then students will work reading and writing a number up to the millions place.

Writing

We plan to examine the craft skills that writers use to write interesting personal narratives. From our investigation of these craft skills, our writers will set personal goals for the personal narrative unit. In addition, we will continue generating ideas and quick writing about possible small moments to take into the writing process. Ask your child: What are some of the craft skills that good 4th grade writers use to build stories? What are you quick writing about in class?

Social Studies

Students began their Native American Brochure Project in class. Students will work in groups, reading and watching videos about where a Native American group lived. Students will then create a brochure that accurately answers the following:

- How did the geography influence how different Native American groups lived?
- How did the climate influence how different Native American groups live?
- What other factors influenced how different Native American groups lived?

Upcoming Dates

September 24: Portrait Day
September 27: Birthday Celebrations at 3:10
October 11: Parent-Teacher Conference Day
October 14: NO SCHOOL (Columbus Day)