

Belding Area Schools

The right size. The right choice.

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9-15-23

It is crazy to me that we have already completed week 4! WOW!! Has that ever gone quickly. Enjoy the fall weather, I think it is here to stay.

Writing/Reading

The last few weeks in reading, we were reading about natural disasters. It was quite an informative couple of weeks, learning about earthquakes, volcanoes, hurricanes, tsunamis, etc. We had fabulous discussions!

On Wednesday this week, we began our unit on Realistic Fiction. We talked about characteristics that make up Realistic Fiction, such as: characters, a story being made up but one that could happen in real life, the problem/solution within the story, and turning points. I connect the books I read aloud to the kids, to our genre studies. This makes the lessons much more authentic.

We have also begun drafting our personal narratives. Students are writing about an event that happened in his/her life, writing the event from the beginning, middle and end perspective, and including sensory details. I am really driving home the importance of communicating clearly through text and writing complete sentences. I am excited to see what they create!

I began spelling and grammar work this week. The first spelling test was today (check your child's daily papers for scores). We have been discussing subjects and predicates, compound sentences and the long /a/ patterns in words.

I also am expecting kids to read for 30 minutes each night. It can be broken up throughout the day, but please try to have your child read 15 minutes aloud to you and then 15 independently.

This will help improve your child's stamina and will help expand his/her vocabulary and knowledge base and fluency.

Math

We will finish up our Place Value unit next week and will test. I am planning to have a review day next Wednesday, and a test on Thursday. We will be covering all place value concepts; rounding, naming place values, expanded form, written form, standard form, addition and subtraction with regrouping. **Any help that you can give your child with problems like these is greatly appreciated!**

Please be sure that your child is doing his/her math homework every night. This will really help in the long run because your child is getting two opportunities each day to solidify the concept that was taught that day. It also keeps you informed as to what is being taught in the classroom. If you have questions about Math, please reach out. I know that it can be tricky figuring out exactly what the questions are asking.

Another request is that you begin to work with your child to master his/her multiplication facts. We will become heavily dependent on "knowing" them so that your child does not have to work as hard when we get to the multiplication unit in early October. Having the facts memorized will help free up thinking about how to solve a multi-digit multiplication problem. We can focus on process not fact figuring AND process.

Thank you in advance, your child and I thank you. I am really trying to avoid many tears and frustration on your child's part (and maybe yours too) later!

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Science

We have taken full advantage of our science unit mirroring our ELA unit of study on Natural Disasters. We have learned a great deal about the Ring of Fire, and volcanic activity around the globe. We learned about the different types of volcanoes (shield and cone) and the different types of lava that flow from each. Ask your child to "teach you" what they have learned!

Online Registration

If you have not updated your child's information in the Skyward system, please do so as soon as possible. If you are having trouble with your Skyward Login, please contact our technology department at 794-4552.

Mobile Dentist

The mobile dentist has extended the applications until September 22nd! If you would like to have your child see the mobile dentist, please still send in the form!



Dates to Remember

9-20-23- Half Day for students

EMAIL ADDRESSES

If I do not have your updated email address, it is possible that you might miss information from me. I like to use our Skyward messenger system to stay connected with parents, and this is the easiest way. If you are not receiving my notifications, please write me a note with your preferred email address and I can have the office make the change. Thank you!!

Standing Specials

Monday- PE 2:25-3:15 Tuesday-Technology
2:25-3:15 Wednesday-Music 2:25-3:15
Thursday-STEAM 2:25-3:15, Friday-PE 2:25-
3:15

If you ever have questions about how or what your child is doing in class, please feel free to call, email, or write me a note. Have a great couple of weeks. My phone number at school is 794-4766, and at home 794-3888.

~Leanne Feuerstein