

GRADE FOUR CHRONICLE



September 14, 2007

Ms. Arnot's Class

Wild Rose School

Highlights

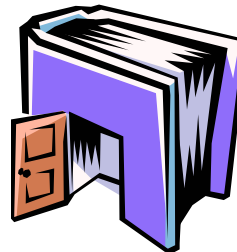
Welcome to Grade Four again! The children and I have spent these first few days getting to know each other and learning classroom routines and expectations. We are working hard to develop quiet work times and to focus during instructions. The children are experiencing success in this area, but it will remain one of our goals for the near future.

Some of you have popped in or written notes to provide us with additional information. We appreciate your concern and willingness to share this information, for it helps to build a successful beginning to the school year. We are looking forward to meeting all of you next Tuesday, September 18th at 6:30.

If your child doesn't have any homework on a particular evening, please let them read with you for ten or twenty minutes. As you are reading together ask them questions about the material and have them summarize what they have read in their own words.

It is our hope that you will use this newsletter to keep in touch with our classroom activities. It will also provide information about the curricular items we have covered so you will be able to review these concepts with your child. The newsletter will be posted on the Wild Rose web page, wrem.spschools.org.

Mrs. Milburn will be teaching Health, Music, and Science. Ms. Manning will be teaching the class Physical Education and Mrs. Powers will be teaching French. I will be teaching Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Art.



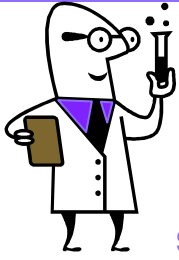
Language Arts

Next week, we will begin our spelling program that is based on the most frequently used words in writing, the children's own writing as well as curricular words. We began our first novel study of the year, Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing and started to review our cursive writing skills.



Social Studies

This year the students will be studying our province. We will start off learning about the symbols, agriculture, geography and natural resources. Wherever possible I will integrate other curricular outcomes in our learning activities. We've already ventured into the mathematical area including grid work to determine the location of the many places the students have visited in Alberta. The students will be learning how to read for content and make their own notes. The language art skills we learn and use in social studies will be reinforced in the other subject areas.



Science

The students will be exploring the Alberta Wild Flower bed at the front of the school, as we are responsible for this area of the Eco Park. We will be starting a unit on Wastes in our World and our recycling project soon. Funds earned by our class recycling pop and juice containers will support special Grade Four fieldtrips this year.



Mathematics

Many of the math skills that your child will be learning this year will be processed through hands-on or manipulative activities. As much as possible, these activities will be related to the world around them. For example, when we are learning about grids, gathering information from map legends or determining what scale means, Alberta and St. Albert road maps will be used. I will try to build and expand from their previous knowledge base. The major concepts we will be covering in September are place value, patterns, estimating, rounding, addition and subtraction.

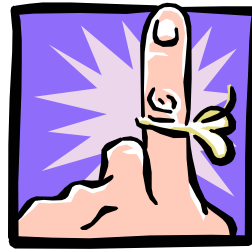


Technology

Keyboarding skills will be the major focus for our technology studies at the beginning of the year. If you have a keyboarding program at home, now is the time to dust it off for your child. The first area that we will be covering will be correct posture and home row keys. Your child will be scheduled into the computer lab two times a week.

Thanks for sending your e-mail addresses. Please check your mail and send us a return

message so we can ensure that the connections work. I always use the parents' email address to ensure that you have an opportunity to view any communications that might be coming from our class. The students will be learning how to send messages to you and others. We begin each morning checking our email and trying to find the answer to a research question using the encyclopedia or a search engine.



Reminders

Spelling words will be listed in your child's agenda most Fridays. The students will complete a pre-test on Tuesday and circle any words that they should continue to study throughout the week. Please check their agenda and help them review these words.

If all the words are spelled correctly on their pre-test, the students will be excused from spelling activities for the week. They will have an opportunity to pick from a variety of other activities to complete at that time.

Tuesday, September 18th -

6:30 – 7:15 - Grade Four Information Meeting in
our classroom

7:30 – 8:30 – School Council Meeting - Library

Tuesday, September 25th

- School Photos

Friday, September 28th -

1:30 - Faces of Fire Presentation

- National Parks Service