



Reading – Our focus for next week will be identifying different story elements such as plot, conflict & resolution, main idea, sequence of events, main characters, setting, and cause & effect. We will be applying these skills to the various fictional stories in class in order to better comprehend the overall plot of what we read.

Spelling- Every night students have to complete spelling homework with their spelling words. **At their own pace, students must complete enough activities to earn 10 points by Friday.** Students need to try to refrain from using the same activity more than once a week. Each new activity needs to be labeled with their name, date, activity #, and point value.

Writing – In Writing Workshop we will complete our initial story maps for our personal narratives and begin working on our first drafts. Students will be working individually, with peers, and with the teacher during this writing process.

Flat Stanley is still on the move! We have started to receive Flat Stanley letters and photographs back from our friends and family. We will be hanging up 3 personal collages of Flat Stanley and his trips in front of our room next week. Hopefully more letters and pictures will arrive soon, which is so exciting!

Math – We are continuing to put a heavy focus on our multiplication facts over the next few weeks. Students are using flash cards, different iPod applications, and math games to help them memorize each fact in school. Yet, we will still need students to practice their multiplication facts at home

as well! Each week we will have quizzes on multiplication and have created a special chart to track our progress from the 0's to the 12's. Students are also understanding the relationship between multiplication and division as we work in our math centers to apply these skills.

Next week we will also begin to take a look at graphing and making deeper analyses of the graphs we create and/or work with.

In student Friday Folders, a letter went home describing the Multiplication Sundae Strategy we are using in class. Attached to this newsletter is another copy of the process, so please familiarize yourself with it and let me know if you have any questions! Math is fun, but we are making it extra sweet! ☺

Science – Our science unit this quarter is studying elements of the Sun, Moon, and Stars! Students will need to observe the moon each night on their Moon Calendar that went home last week. This counts as part of their homework, so please help remind students of their new assignment this month. If students are having issues seeing the moon because of weather, have them describe what the sky looked like instead. For example: “cloudy and the moon was not visible” or “starry night, but no moon,” etc...

WANTED: MYSTERY READERS

If you would like to be a Mystery Reader for our class, please secretly contact me!



IMPORTANT DATES:

January 15th – Saturday Snow Make Up
January 17th – No school
January 18th – Fieldtrip: NC Museum of Art
January 21st – Early Release
January 22nd –Saturday Snow Make Up Day
February 7 – 18th – Scholastic Book Fair

**MVP OF THE WEEK!
JAKE**



Field Trip to NC Museum of Art – On Tuesday, January 18th, we will be going to the NC Museum of Art. This will allow students to enrich their art education and supplement what the students have been learning in Art Class with Ms. Stephenson! The cost of the trip is \$4.50 if students still need to pay and all permission forms have been turned in. We will prepare to leave the school around 9:30am and will be returning around 1pm. Students will need to eat a hearty breakfast and bring a snack to eat while outside the museum. We will most likely have to eat lunch when we return from the trip, which is significantly later than what students are used to. All parents are welcome to attend, but must provide their own transportation and have WCPSS clearance.

Please let me know by note or email if you will be joining us on our tour and/or if you have any questions!

<http://www.ncartmuseum.org/>

You can contact me at:

*Email: asonntag@wcpss.net

Front Office: 890-7333

**READ BELOW FOR INFORMATION
ABOUT OUR MULTIPLICATION
SUNDAE MADNESS!**

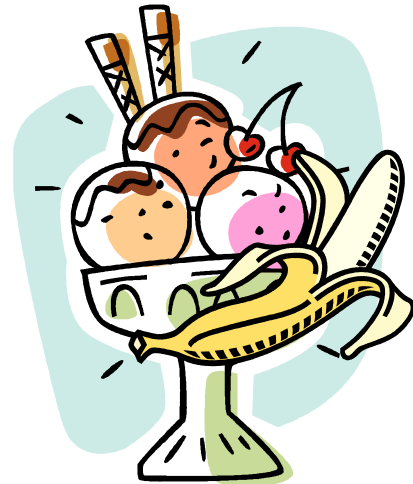




Multiplication Madness!

In order to help students master their multiplication facts from 0's to 12's, our class will be "building multiplication sundaes!" We will be learning strategies and memorizing techniques for our multiplication facts in class. When each set of facts are mastered by the student, they will move their name up a chart to show their progress. Each level of the chart is worth a different sundae item, which they will earn as they master their facts. At the end of our multiplication unit, the students will receive the sundae they earned based on their level on the chart. The progression is as follows from bottom up:

12's	Certificate of Completion
11's	Cherry on top
10's	Whipped cream
9's	Topping choice
8's	Topping choice
7's	Topping choice
6's	Banana
5's	Scoop of ice cream
4's	Scoop of ice cream
3's	Scoop of ice cream
2's	Spoon
1's	Bowl
0's	Invitation to sundae celebration



When our class is close to mastering all facts, I will send home more information and a sign-up sheet for parents to help provide sundae items and assist in the serving process! Thank you for all your support and help with this objective and let's have fun doing it!

Sincerely,
Ms. Sonntag

**BANKS ROAD
TRAILBLAZERS**

TEAM SONNTAG TIMES

JANUARY 14TH, 2011

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