

Fourth Grade Newsletter

December 2011



Religion

December finds us waiting for Christmas! Advent will remind us that we are an expectant people, people of promise. Our faith is built on God's promises. We will prepare our hearts for the great feast of Christmas by sharing and giving. "This is waiting time-be glad everyone: Wait for God's son."

Math

"D" is for December...and division! We will spend more time with the operation of division in math. It is very important to set the groundwork in following the division rules at this stage, in order to promote higher order thinking as the skill becomes increasingly more difficult.



Science

We are starting a new and exciting science unit...all about Magnets and Electricity! We think that the students will be very "attracted" to these concepts!

We have learned about static electricity and the rapid transfer of electrons, but we wanted to put the concepts to the test! The results were hair-raising!





Reading

We are continuing to use our Open Court series to target essential reading skills, such as cause and effect, inference, and drawing conclusions. Please keep reading, students! 25 AR points are required at the end of the second quarter.

Differentiated Instruction

Fourth graders are amazing...and talented...and all individual learners with various strengths. In order to meet their needs, we frequently use small and flexible groups. Students work in different grouping arrangements throughout the day to help target the skills that each child needs the most.

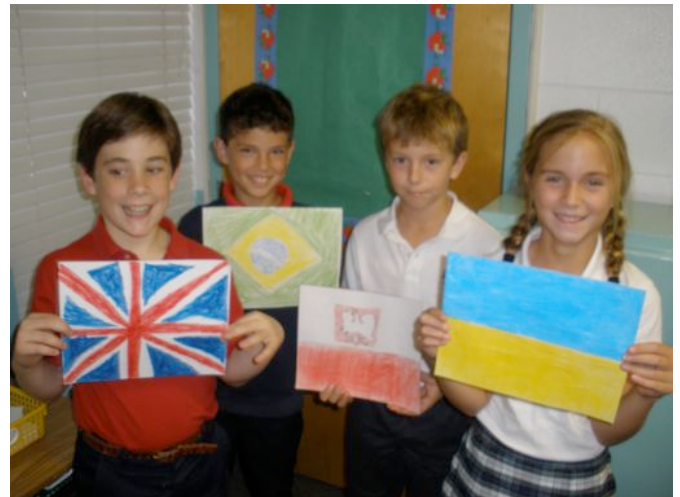


Mrs. Maddock's class and Poppy

Christmas Around the World

The month of December finds our 4th graders immersed in Christmas Around the World. The students have learned a great deal about their countries' climate, geography, and customs and are looking forward to sharing their newfound knowledge during the presentations.

Additionally, our 4th graders have become "experts" on the early explorers who charted courses around the world to open it up for settlement. Research and creativity come together in this project to afford students the opportunity to find and present information in ways that are meaningful for their peers.



Your children continue to be blessings in our lives. We wish you love and happiness at this special time of year.