

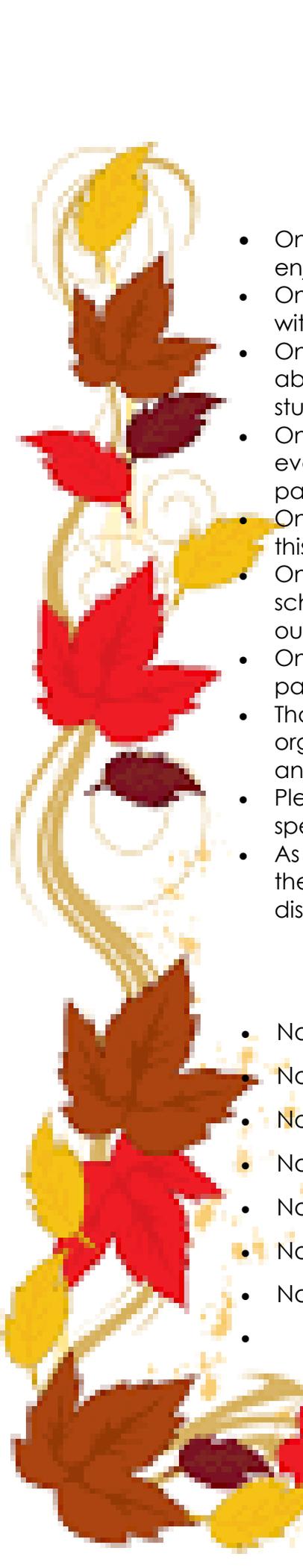
Ms. Speno's & Mrs. Forbes' October Newsletter

Language Arts- In reading, we are continuing our first unit on "Building a Reading Life." The children have diligently worked on the metacognition process of thinking about their thinking. One of the major goals of this unit was to introduce students to their reader's notebooks. Throughout the unit students have been able to use their reader's notebook to stop and jot, write to remember and to further develop their thinking. In writing, students have been planting seeds in their writer's notebooks. Using different mentor texts we have explored "show not tell," different types of leads and incorporating vivid vocabulary into their writing. We are in the process of selecting entries that will be revised, edited and eventually published using our classroom Chromebooks.

Math – We have officially began Module 3. The focus of this unit will be area, perimeter, multiplication and division. Students will use their place value understanding and visual representations to solve multiplication and division problems with multi-digit numbers. As a key area of focus for 4th grade, this module moves slowly but comprehensively to develop students' ability to reason about the methods and models chosen to solve problems with multi-digit factors and dividends. Please continue to help your child become fluent with multiplication and division facts. Students should be practicing their facts each night! This is to ensure that they develop automaticity with their multiplication facts. This is a skill that we are currently working on and will continue to be applied throughout the entire year.

Social Studies – This month our fourth graders have finished our study on New York landforms! To conclude this unit study, students had the opportunity to create New York State maps using various art materials. Their final products are displayed outside of our classroom for others to admire! Upon completing our maps we began our next unit on "New York's First People." During this unit students will learn about Native Americans, their culture, and they will have the opportunity to complete a Native American webquest to foster their understanding of these historic concepts!

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Announcements

- On October 10, we had a PTSA sponsored musical assembly. The children enjoyed this opportunity to listen, move and learn about new cultures.
- On October 11, our class attending Senior Sewing. The children enjoyed working with the volunteers and creating their gray mice.
- On October 22, Claudia visited for Current Events. Remember to ask your child about the news stories that she presents! It is amazing to observe how engaged students are during her presentations.
- On October 23, our class went on a Nature Walk through the Hillside Woods. This event was organized by our STEAM teacher, Mrs. Robin Farrell. Thank you to the parent volunteers who accompanied the students on this walk.
- On October 24, we had our monthly Social and Emotional Learning Assembly. For this assembly, Hillside was asked to wear orange to represent unity.
- On October 25, we had a fire prevention assembly and our monthly visit from our school counselor, Mrs. Snyder. These lessons have served as a great follow up to our Second Step lessons with Donnie.
- On October 30, our class attended the PTSA New Book Fair. Thank you to any parents who volunteered to organize this successful event!
- Thank you to our class parents, Nicole Weiss and Kim Meisner who effortlessly organized our wonderful Halloween celebration! We appreciate everyone's help and contributions for making this event special for our students.
- Please reference our class website to see more up to date announcements and special events planned for the following weeks!
- As conferences approach, we have sent home a reminder note indicating both the time and date of your conference. We look forward to seeing you and discussing the wonderful work our students have accomplished ☺

Upcoming Events

- November 1 & 8 – Half Day for Students – Parent/Teacher Conferences
- November 6 – Superintendent's Conference Day – No School for Students
- November 9 – Late Start for Students
- November 12 – No School – Veteran's Day
- November 21 - Early Release @ 12:00
- November 22 – 23 – No School – Thanksgiving Recess
- November 30 – Wear Red Day - Responsibility Day
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Warmest regards,
Alexis Speno and Katrina Forbes