

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Homework Policy:

- ? Students are expected to spend 40-60 minutes on homework each night.
- ? After your child has completed his/her homework, please check it for completeness and accuracy.
- ? If your child struggles with the homework and is unable to complete it with your help, please notify the teacher with a note in the agenda.
- ? Unfinished homework is expected to be completed the following day and submitted to the subject area teacher.
- ? Arrangements should be made to obtain missed work due to an absence.

**Science News:**

Grade 4 - Ask your child scientist what a cell is and the function of each part. The students enjoyed making edible cell models in class. We are finishing the Adaptations Unit and will soon begin Electricity.

Grade 5 - Our scientists will examine the dynamic nature of living things, their interactions with the environment, and the results from these interactions over time, as we begin the Unless Unit.

**Math News:** Benchmark-last week in January

*We hope to see students take advantage of earning tickets by completing the **January Math Calendar!** Remember, this counts toward **100 Math Minutes** as well!!*

Miss Stevens' and Mrs. Raab's classes - One class is starting division and will be tested on this skill in about 2 weeks. Another class is beginning to add and subtract fractions.

Mrs. Green's and Mrs. Michel's classes - Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes are finishing up cluster 4 on division, and will be moving onto cluster 5, statistics and probability (a graphing unit which includes finding mean, median, mode, and range). Please ask your child to use the vocabulary/resource section of the math binder.

*There are valuable tools in there!*

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes are completing multiplication & division and will be moving onto cluster 5, fractions.

### Kudos:

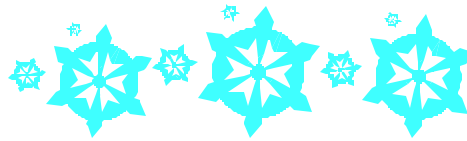
- Thank you to the students and families who participated in our December donation drives. You can log onto the Carroll County Humane Society website to see a picture of students who met Mrs. Michel there on Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> to drop off all of the items that were collected. Go to the title, "Generous Donations", located on the right hand side of the site. Thank you for your participation – the animals are grateful!
- The donation drive for our soldiers in Iraq was quite a success as well. We collected approximately 85 items for our brave troops! Kudos to Madison Desrosiers and her family for organizing this effort for us!
- Thanks to all who made a donation for the purchase of Braille books.

### Supplies Needed:

- Mrs. Michel's math classes are in need of a plastic bowling set with pins and ball. It can be large or small in size. Also needed are playing cards, small sized spray bottles for use with math games. Thanks for your help!
- Have your child inspect his/her supply case or bag for needed supplies, now would be a good time to replenish those items that are used often in class.**

### Candy Fundraiser:

- This fundraising effort to offset the cost of our May field trips to St. Mary's City (gr. 4) and Mount Vernon (gr. 5) will begin in February. Look for information to come home the last week of January about participating in this activity.



## Integrated Language Arts News

Reading assessments this month!

- \***Beginning this week, homework for most 4th graders will include a weekly article. The article will be distributed on Monday and collected on Friday. Please help your child do his/her best work.**

Miss Steven's class - The students are working with nonfiction in both reading and writing. Additionally, they are trying to ask and answer thick questions, those that require thinking and not just locating an answer in the text.

Mrs. Benner's and Mrs. Green's classes - Our students have been studying the genre of fantasy and reviewing and using all of the reading strategies. We are attempting to take a piece of writing through the writing process every week. Ask your child about his/her "Footprints in the Snow" story.

Miss Mulhern's classes - Students are wrapping up questioning and using poetry to help with visualization, as well as reading informational text.

### AGENDAS/TAKE HOME FOLDERS

**Please go through these items with your child each evening. Remove and read any stapled materials from the agenda.**

