Mrs. Cavazos’ Weekly Newsletter Week# 3

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| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| **Reading Homework** Please read daily for 15-20 minutes and document on reading log that homework has been done.  **Math homework** sent home to day | **Read 15-20 minutes daily** and document in reading log. | **Read 15-20 minutes daily** and document in reading log. | **Read 15-20 minutes** daily ad document in the reading log.  **Library** 1:45-2:30  **Homework due** please turn in the homework bin.  **Scholastic book order** will be sent today. You may order on line. | Assembly 7:45am please meet in the cafeteria.  Parent Reader 8:05-8:25 You may choose your books from home.  Parent volunteers needed for computer lab sign up outside my classroom.  Computer Lab 1:30-2:30 Character Traits.  Have a great weekend! ☺ |
| Music | Art | PE | Music | Art |

Dear Parents & Students,

We had a terrific time in the library this week. The children loved the new library atmosphere. They were able to check out books. Please remember that we go every Thursday, so don’t forget your books. If you finish reading the books sooner, you can always return it after school and check another one out.

The children also had a guidance class with Mrs. Trotter on Wednesday from 9:30-10:00. She will be teaching classes every other week.

**Our Academic Focus**:

* Reading- Building a community of readers, Character traits and setting.
* Writing stories with a beginning a middle and ending.
* Math- numbers to 12
* Science- Scientific safety/processes/ Inquiry
* Social Studies- rules, responsibilities, citizenship and all about me!

**Back to School Night is Thursday! I hope to see everyone there.**

**Spelling Words** that we will be working on this week**: that, it, he, was, map, cap, nap, tap.** We will be working on these words during class time but it is always helpful to practice reading them and spelling them at home too, since they are in most of our lessons and books. The more you read them and spell them the more fluent you become.

I wanted to give you an idea of what our language arts components are during our instruction time. I use the balanced literacy approach. Below is how my language arts schedule is divided like. My balance literacy approach involves the following:

**Balanced Literacy**

**This involves word** **study** which is the study of phonics, morphemic analysis which is using parts of words to denote meaning, and automaticity for sight words. Word study involves decoding (reading) and encoding (phonics and spelling) so students can make meaning from an author or convey their own meaning.

**Interactive Read Aloud** where I read a piece of quality writing to the class and stop at planned points to ask questions and elicit student response. Students learn to think deeply, listen to others and grow their own ideas.

**Shared Reading** the students and teacher read together. The teacher uses the time to teach explicit reading strategies and skills that the students may need to learn.

**Strategy Groups or guided reading groups** is when the teacher meets with a group that needs to work on a specific strategy or has the same reading level. Each student has a copy of the text and reads it quietly. The teacher uses the time to teach and have the student practice what they learn.

**Independent Reading** Is a time when the student reads a text at their independent level to practice strategies and develop fluency. The teacher confers with students and prompts students to use strategies, we discuss various aspects of the text and learn about each student as a reader. Students may respond to text in meaningful ways such as through writing, sketching or discussions.

**Independent Reading Conference** is a time spent with the student 1-1 to teach what he/she needs to learn about reading. The teacher uses the conference to assess what the student needs to learn to decide what to teach the student and then to teach them.

I hope this will give you an idea of what our language arts time consists of. I will be assessing for the next couple of weeks. I will continue to keep you informed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Volunteer Information** If you have signed up to be a volunteer and have had the training and background check, I could use your help this Friday. If you would like to assist and have not had the training or background check, please contact Mrs. Trotter or BW Elementary volunteer training. Click under more info then volunteer info. Then, click on volunteer training and all the information you need will be there.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cavazos☺