



News From Borlaug Fourth Grade

burk.diane@iowacityschools.org

karr.stacy@iowacityschools.org

mcwilliams.john@iowacityschools.org

Dear Family,

It is hard to believe we are already to Halloween week! We have had a great first few months of school. I appreciate all of my students' families for the work you do to help your child be prepared to do his or her best every day.

I am looking forward to speaking with you about your child's growth over the next few weeks at parent-teacher conferences!



Curriculum Updates

Language Arts:

We are making progress on Unit 2 in Language Arts. The stories in this unit center around the theme of expressing oneself. In our story this week, *Dear Mr. Winston*, Cara's apology letter to librarian Mr. Winston isn't so sincere. We are working on the skill of drawing conclusions.

In writing, we will be exploring different ways to respond to a piece of literature we have read. This week we are writing an opinion piece and supported our thoughts with reasons and details from *Dear Mr. Winston*. Supporting our arguments or ideas with relevant details will be a skill we will practice a lot in fourth grade.

Math:

We are close to finishing Topic 4, where we continued to work with the multiplication algorithm learned in the last topic. Students are using area models, partial products, and the traditional method to solve two-digit times two-digit multiplication problems.

Even though we won't be taking basic fact timed tests, please help your child keep practicing and learning his or her basic multiplication and division facts.

We will then move on to Topic 5, which includes division skills and long division!



Dates to Remember

- October 31: Halloween Parade (2:00 pm, Borlaug Gym)
- November 6: PTO Meeting (6:30 pm, Borlaug library)
- November 7: Parent-teacher Conferences (4:00-7:30 pm)
- November 9: Spirit Day- Pajama and Stuffed Animal Day
- November 15 & 16: Parent-teacher Conferences
NO SCHOOL- NOV. 16
- NO SCHOOL- November 21-23
Thanksgiving Break

Science:

Our science unit, "Soil, Rocks, and Landforms" has been an interesting one! We are currently learning about how to read and draw topographic maps. Soon, we will be discussing rapid changes to landforms due to natural disasters, as well as natural resources.

Social Studies:

The students' poster presentations were great! Please take some time to look at your child's classmates' posters during parent-teacher conferences. Our culture posters correspond with our social studies chapter, "Peopling of the United States," which highlights the contributions from some of the first and largest ethnic groups that populated the United States.

