



News From Borlaug Fourth Grade

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Dear Family,

We are really getting into the routines of fourth grade after a little over a month of school! Thank you for supporting your child and his or her homework, including math homework, studying spelling words, and keeping track of his or her HRA Log each week. Remember to sign or initial the log over the weekend and send it with your child on Mondays.



Curriculum Updates

Language Arts:

We have completed our first reading unit, "Reaching Out." Our story last week, Stormalong, was a tall tale from the sea. Our comprehension focus was understanding characters.

In writing, we have used the skills we have practiced in our short pieces and put them together in a longer narrative writing piece. We will go through the writing process, concentrating on the six traits of writing: Focus, Organization, Voice, Sentence Fluency, Word Choice, and Conventions.

Math:

We are making good progress on Topic 3 in math and will finish up next week. It is a multiplication unit, discussing how to solve larger multiplication problems. If there are nights when your child has no "paper homework" in math, please have him or her practice his or her basic multiplication facts.



Dates to Remember

October 5	NO SCHOOL
October 8	NO SCHOOL
October 14	Run For the Schools (Downtown Iowa City)
October 24	PTO Book Fair (Borlaug Library, 3-6 pm)
October 25	PTO Book Fair (Borlaug Library, 2-6 pm) Science Fair (Borlaug Gym, 6-7:30 pm)
October 31	Halloween Parade

Science:

We have completed our soil and weathering investigation. We discussed how physical and chemical changes take place to break down rocks. We have been discussing erosion and deposition. Students enjoyed our stream table investigations last week. Ask your child about his or her observations!

Social Studies:

It was Constitution Day a few weeks ago and the students were able to learn about how the United States Constitution came to be. We are finishing up Chapter 2, discussing map skills and a sneak preview of the regions of the United States. In Chapter 3, we will learn about various ethnic groups that contributed to early American culture. Later in October, we will have a poster assignment about our family cultures.

