

Happy Holidays from all of us to all of you



December 2020 Newsletter

Announcements

Upcoming Dates:

- December 21st-January 4th: Winter Break

Grading and Return to School Information:

- Parents and guardians have access to their students grades via their Parent Vue account. More information about how to login can be found at this [link](#).
- Links and information about Return to School can be found on the [FCPS website](#).
- If you opted your child for in-person instruction and would like to go back to virtual, please call the school at 703-262-3100 as soon as possible.

Technology Information:

- Dogwood's Tech Help Desk is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 AM to 11 AM if you find that there are problems with your child's laptop or the MiFi.

Assessments:

- Science: Assessment of Oceans on Thursday, December 16th

Language Arts

Driving Question: What is the author's perspective?

Reading and Writing Goals

Language Arts (Home/School Connection)

- Students should be working on Imagine Literacy and Learning at least 20 minutes 3 times a week
- Read books for 20 minutes every day

- Readers evaluate how the literary techniques impact their interpretations of the text.
- Readers consider the perspectives of others to broaden their own thinking through discussion.
- Readers take a critical stance while reading, analyzing the author’s explicit and implicit beliefs and comparing them against their own.
- Writers study narrative nonfiction mentor texts through an aesthetic lens, noticing how information is communicated using literary techniques.
- Nonfiction writers focus their writing on a small part of a larger topic to communicate their personal interests and passion.
- Writers revise their pieces to include more literary and narrative techniques to enhance the readers’ understandings of the information.

Word Study Goals

- Readers and writers use knowledge of roots and affixes to determine the meaning of new words.
- Readers use context to clarify the meaning of unfamiliar words and phrases.
- Readers use word reference materials.

PYP Connections-

Learner Profile Attributes: Risk taker and Caring

Approaches To Learning: Thinking skills

(Pioneer Valley Literacy Footprints is a great place to access “just right” books online)

- Share what you read with someone at home or in a video on [Flipgrid](#). (log in with your FCPS google account)
- Explore [notebook](#). Practice adding pages; Write for 20 minutes.
- Write lists, brainstorm ideas, free write, journal
- Keep a journal during the break to share and remember your experiences
- Write a letter to thank someone or to a friend/teacher/family member to share about your winter break
- Write down your New Year’s resolutions or goals for 2021

Math

Math (Home/School Connection)

Driving Question: None. We are connecting conceptually

- Create and solve multistep practical problems involving operations of whole numbers
- Interpret remainders in practical problems involving division of whole numbers
- Estimate sums, differences, products, and quotients of whole number computations
- Investigate and utilize the distributive property of multiplication over addition to promote a flexible understanding of multiplication

- Students should be playing puzzles on ST Math at least 20 minutes daily
- Practice making reasonable estimations
- Practice adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing without the use of a calculator and checking the answer.
- Plan a meal together: what do you need and how much? Looking at a supermarket ad, estimate how much money is needed to purchase all the ingredients.
- Make the meal together. Will you need to divide or multiply the recipe for the number of people eating?

PYP Connections-

Learner Profile Attributes: Communicators and Thinkers

Approaches To Learning: Communication Skills and Thinking Skills

Science	Science (Home/School Connection)
<p>Driving Question: What structures and relationships exist within the ocean?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geological, physical and ecological characteristics of the ocean environment • Oceanic ecosystems and marine adaptations • Distinguishing properties of each phase of matter • Atoms and elements • Molecules and compounds • Mixtures including solutions • Connect landforms to the geographic features of the ocean <p>PYP Connections- Learner Profile Attributes: Caring and Knowledgeable Approaches To Learning: Research Skills</p>	<p>Here are some of the vocabulary words students might use in your discussions: Salinity, density, atom, molecule, compound, mixture, solution, plan, conduct, identify, construct, elements, pressure.</p> <p>What kinds of cool animals live in the ocean -- explore some together. Why do they look the way they do? What features do they have that help them survive?</p> <p>Experiment at home with different mixtures and solutions - what happens if I mix two kinds of juices? Add fruit to my water? Combine two drinks? Is it a mixture or a solution? How do you know?</p>

Image Name	Caption
5th grade DecNews Banner	<i>Happy Holidays from all of us to all of you</i>