

Newsletter for Ms. Rechtfertig's Fourth Grade

September 27, 2012



Conferences Are Coming Soon

In the Friday folder, please find a reminder about the day and time for your child's October conference.

Assessments to Sign and Return

Some Friday folders have assessments for parents to review, sign, and return. I maintain a file of assessments for which children have not met their benchmarks to help me better teach and meet their needs in the future. Thank you.

Centers on Wednesday

I am still trying to put together a period for classroom centers on Wednesdays between 8:30 and 10:00. I have one parent who can come at that time, and if I had two more, I could do centers for both Language Arts and Math each week. Centers are important times for differentiated instruction and learning. Today for example, one math group (7 children who need an extra challenge) were able to meet and collaborate together. They are very excited to discover which partners they enjoy working with through their self-paced activities. I was able to start an accelerated written composition group - children who can move ahead at a more rapid pace through their narrative essays, with my guidance. Moreover, eight readers and writers, who benefit from extra support in a small group setting were able to receive it. Other groups of children were able to play a game to improve their proofreading skills. Everyone was guided through their "A Day When Machines Do Everything for Us" essays and worked on the computer. We got a lot accomplished with the help of the parent volunteers, and instructional assistant, Kristina McGuinness. **If you can help on Wednesdays, please let me know.**

Bike Rodeo

Next Tuesday, October 2nd between 10:30 and 11:15, the fourth grade will have a Bike Rodeo. It is an optional activity that is only for bikes, and not scooters. If you would like your child to participate, please send the bike and a helmet to school on Tuesday. (There will be a few extra bikes and helmets available, if you send me a note that you would like to borrow one.)

Children's (and Teens) Book Drive

There are many children in our county who do not have books to read at home. Between October 1st and 12th, the school is collecting books. Please send your new or gently used children's or teens books to the classroom. Thank you very much.

