

# Mrs. Mennucci's Classroom News

Friday, January  
7th  
For the week of  
1/10-1/14

## News you can use:

- Band practice is on M, W, F next week and PE is on Tuesday and Thursday next week.
- The next Niagara Falls payment of \$30 PER PERSON is due by February 2nd. If you still have not paid the deposit, please get it in as soon as possible.
- Book orders are due by Friday, January 14th if you are interested. Please see the note attached to the flyer regarding online ordering. I will still accept checks made out to the book club if you prefer not to do online ordering.
- I have really enjoyed the first week back with your children. They seem to have adjusted well to the transition. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me:  
amennucci@livoniacsd.org  
346-4030 x 6171
- Please initial/sign your child's planner EVERY night to indicate that he/she completed the reading and homework. Please write the number of minutes your child read next to your initials.

## Math

We began Unit 6, Division; Map Reference Frames; and Measures of Angles on Monday. We spent the week looking at multiplication and division number stories, discussing strategies for division, and learning partial quotients which is a new algorithm for division. This algorithm may be tricky for your child at first and you may struggle with it, as it is not like long division. Encourage your child to bring home his/her SRB or check out the video illustrating the process on my website.

We also examined the expression of a remainder when dividing and we started to look at angles.

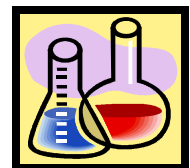
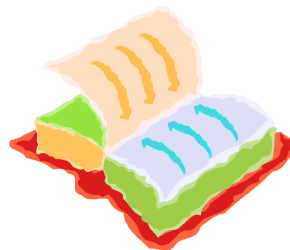
This is a difficult unit and, unfortunately, it is followed by 2 equally challenging units. I spend time daily working with small groups of students in math class... encourage your child to join one of these groups if he/she feels as though extra help would be warranted. Sometimes, a quick fix is all that's needed!

## Science/SS

This week in science, we continued to work on our Ecosystems unit. I went back and reviewed some of the material the students covered with Mrs. Ehmann and we continued work on a National Geographic Kids' article on symbiotic relationships. There is a great deal of vocab in this unit. Please encourage your child to look over the words regularly. Games to help practice these words can be found on my website. Go to the *Toolbox Pro* link in the bottom left hand corner of my homepage. Click on "Open Activity" next to either "Ecosystems 1" or "Ecosystems 2" for 2 different vocabulary games.

## Language Arts

We did not begin our new ELA unit this week in order to spend the time recreating our classroom environment. My start this week was a transition for all of us, so we used ELA time to get to know one another, establish rules, routines, and expectations, and discuss our TRIBES agreements. It was definitely time well spent. In both the whole group and in small groups, students discussed the 4 TRIBES agreements: Mutual Respect, Attentive Listening, The Right to Pass-Participate, and Appreciations— No Put Downs. I am hoping that the time we used to lay the foundation for a peaceful, respectful, safe, and fun classroom atmosphere will pay dividends in the months ahead! Next week, we will begin our new ELA unit, *Discovery Teams*. The first story is The Lost Lake. We will be reading it, working on making inferences, and we will be completing a short project to go with it.



Early in the week we discussed how the Iroquois used wampum to record treaties and stories. Students read articles on the Algonquian and Iroquois tribes of New York State and completed a compare and contrast chart noting their similarities and differences. We started research in the Library for their final Iroquois project today. Students have selected a topic they would like to work on and have a project guide in their folders. The projects are due on January 21st at the latest. As soon as your child completes their project have them bring it in. We will be sharing a few each day as they come in. Next week we will be completing the Iroquois unit. Please look for a study guide to come home on Tuesday so they can begin to review for the unit test.