

**Troy Elementary
December 6,
2017**

Mrs. Sandquist's & Mrs. Sullins' Third and Fourth Grade News

What's Happening in December..

Special points of interest:

- Late Start (10:15) Wed. Dec. 13th.
- Benchmark tests for MATH and ELA: December 18-20.
- Winter Break: December 22nd through January 7th.
- Please join us on Thursday, December 21st for our school Holiday Music Festival, at 8:45am, in the Elementary Multipurpose room.

Be on the lookout:

- Reading logs come home every Wednesday.
- Remind your child to return their homework. Help them remember to put their name on their paper.
- Every Friday, 3rd grade students will be bringing home their behavior log for the week.
- Spelling words come home every Monday.
- Spelling tests are every Friday.
- 4th graders should be practicing their multiplication facts at home.

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Writing

- ⇒ **3rd:** Students will be given a picture and be directed to write a story based on their inferences for the picture.
- ⇒ **4th:** Students will be finishing up their writing and typing on Native Americans.

Reading

- ⇒ **3rd:** Students will be identifying the parts of stories, dramas, and poems, such as: stanzas, lines, rhyme, dialogue, acts, scenes, stage direction, etc.
- ⇒ **4th:** Students are working on comparing and contrasting first and second hand information on the same event or topic.

Social Studies

- ⇒ **3rd:** Students will pick a state then research and write about their state.
- ⇒ **4th:** Students are wrapping up their research/writing paper on one of the Native American tribes of Idaho. They will get to present it to the class.

Math

- ⇒ **3rd:** Students are working on using metric measurement in real world problems. Mass, capacity and length have been the focus, while understanding the unit measure of each: gram, liter and meter. Additionally, students have been converting the unit measure to kilo-, kilo meaning "one thousand of," and to milli-, with milli meaning "one thousand."
- ⇒ **4th:** Regular, irregular, mixed number fractions and decimals are the last standards before the benchmark test. Students will be adding, subtracting (with and without a common denominator), comparing and decomposing fractions and decimals. It is important for students to understand that decimals can be written as fractions and that fractions with denominators of ten, 100 and 1,000, etc. can be written as decimals. The hard work we did at the first of the year with number sense is paying off big. Fractions and decimals work in many of the same ways that whole numbers do.
- ⇒ **3rd and 4th graders** are have some difficulty remembering to bring their math homework back on the day it is due. Please help in this area as good habits for returning homework are formed now. Thank you.

Science

- ⇒ **3rd:** Students are writing stories that must contain four vocabulary words from the solar system and moon science units. There are a lot of fantastic ideas being generated by the children.
- ⇒ **4th:** Looking forward to 2018... I want to try something new! Fourth graders will be Stepping into STEM: A Guided-to-Independent Approach to STEM-Based Learning in science. I am excited about the opportunities for students to work in project-based learning models that connect science, technology, engineering, and math. The STEM model also dictates the need for focused student interaction and collaboration. At the end of each guided unit, there are independent team challenges that put into action what the students have learned. I'm looking forward to all of the possibilities for learning!

Few things help an individual more than to place responsibility upon him, and to let him know that you trust him.

- Booker T. Washington