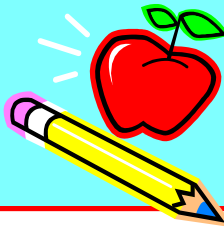




FOURTH GRADE



P.S 117
Briarwood, New York

Fourth Grade Curriculum
April 2011

Fourth Grade Curriculum Newsletter

Math

Students will learn multiplication of multi-digit whole numbers based on place value and basic multiplication facts. Students will also continue to learn the rules of divisors and dividing by two digit divisors.



Science

In science we are reviewing for the New York State Science Exam. This will cover what students have learned from Kindergarten to Fourth grade.



Social Studies

Students will learn about the New York branches of government. We will be discussing how local governments make laws and provide services in New York communities.



Reader and Writer's Workshop

This month we are stepping it up and increasing the rigor as we begin our test preparation period. We know that the ELA test will be more difficult this year and it is projected that this will be the trend in the years to come. On the grade four exams we are anticipating more reading passages and questions. Grade four students will be expected to read for eighty minutes and most likely form a wider variety of genres. Students will be expected to accumulate and synthesize information and ideas across these longer texts.

Luckily, the work that we have been doing all year long should support our students as they gear up to tackle the exam. We are guiding the students through a scaffold test practice program. We start the week with a shared experience where the whole class studies together to become familiar with one of the genres they might encounter on the exam. During the shared experience the teacher leads the class by providing children with prompts and strategies that will help them navigate and hold onto the text. On the remaining days the students have the opportunity to work and practice with a partner, and by the end of the week students were working independently. The next week we start with a new genre. Of course, Students continue to read independently as well.

This month we engage in both test prep (where we teach the students how to use strategies to be successful) and test practices (where they are given the chance to take previous exams to familiarize themselves with the testing experience). We want to help our students continue to grow and learn. We know that you support these efforts at home and we are grateful for that support.