

Mrs. McDonald's 2nd Grade Update

Just a note...

There are many things happening during the last 9 weeks of school, so I wanted to give you a quick update.

- April 25th Field Trip to Discovery Center
- April 28th 4 students go to Young Authors
- May 29th Last Day to read poem in Poetry Academy
- May 4th-6th Raey Guang Visit
- May 17th Just Write & Poetry Celebration
- June 8th Field Day 2/3

Congratulations Young Authors!

The following students were selected to go to the Young Authors presentation at Calvin College:

- Hannah A.
- Ian O.
- Aubree E.
- Isabella F.

GREAT JOB WRITTERS!

Math

Your child is working on a geometry unit about **congruent figures**: figures that are the same size and shape. The unit also covers **similar figures**: figures that are the same shape but not necessarily the same size.

Your child will be **sliding** figures up, down, left, and right; **flipping** figures over horizontal and vertical lines; and **turning** figures around a point.

Your child will be asked to find the **area** of figures in square centimeters by counting the number of squares on centimeter grid paper that a figure covers.

We have one unit to complete in math after our Geometry test on Tuesday, April 19th.

M.E.A.P Prep

During the last 4 weeks of school, we will be preparing the students for the M.E.A.P. test that they will take in the Fall.

Science

The children are learning plant parts, functions, life-cycle, and what a plant needs to live. The test is very easy and will be given on Earth Day, **April 22nd**. They will need to draw the life cycle, draw/label a plant, match the functions of each part, and write the steps to grow/care for a plant.

Our final unit will be Landforms and we will kick this off at the Discovery Center, as well as, review water and plants.

Social Studies

We will be ending the year by studying Hudsonville, which will be a great transition into Michigan in the Fall.

Any remaining time, will be spent reteaching units in which students received less than a 3 on the report card.

Next Year

If your child is **NOT** remaining in my classroom for third grade, please fill out the **Student Placement Profile Survey** located on the school blog. This will assist us with classroom placement. Thanks!

Reader's Workshop

We are working on Expository Text features during our mini-lessons. We will be reviewing connections and questions. I will be reassessing your child's Independent Reading Levels by completing an individualized running record in May. Please keep in mind... if your child is reading two levels above the 2nd grade expectations, we will not move them to a higher Guided Reading Level if they are not consistently making inferences and comprehending material at a deeper level.

I had a couple students comment on their reading level according to Raz-Kids. Raz-Kids is a self guided program and **doesn't** assess the specific areas of comprehension, fluency, and decoding that individualized running records do (as supported by the district). As a result, Raz-Kids is not a clear indicator of student reading ability and often does not ask higher level questions.

Writer's Workshop

We have actually started emerging the children into the 3rd grade writing curriculum. Our focus has been on generating a strategy chart for idea development, as well as, identifying seed stories vs. watermelons. Some of the children need a new composition book. **If you have not already done so, could you send in a wide ruled composition book?**