

4th Grade

Notes from The 4th Grade Team

The purpose of Mountain Brook Schools is to provide an effective, challenging, and engaging education for every one of our students.

1st Nine Weeks
Week 5

Sept. 18-22

Important Dates to Remember:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Alabama History Test Chapter 3 | 9/19 |
| Boosterthon Celebration | 9/20 |
| DOM and Fact Quiz | 9/22 |
| Vocabulary Test | 9/22 |

Announcements:

- Don't forget to read at least 4 nights each week for 30 minutes! To find the **guided reading** level of most books please visit Scholastic Book Wizard at www.scholastic.com/teachers/bookwizard
- Thank you for supporting our school during the Boosterthon!!

Wise Words

"Courage. Kindness. Friendship. Character. These are the qualities that define us as human beings, and propel us, on occasion, to greatness."

—R. J. Palacio, author of #1 New York Times bestseller *Wonder*



Reading Workshop

Each class is reading the novel, *Wonder*, by R.J. Palacio. Teachers are modeling reading strategies during this time, as well as the class engaging in rich conversation as a whole or with a partner. This book has a wonderful message, which goes right along with our 7 Habits.

Unfortunately, Hurricane Irma and the Boosterthon has delayed the launch of our *Analyzing Characters* Unit. However, we look forward to diving right in this week!

Math Workshop

We will continue our unit on Addition and Subtraction. Our focus next week will be adding and subtracting numbers up to one million using more than one strategy, including the standard algorithm. Students will also learn to solve addition and subtraction word problems.

The graded DOM quiz will come home on Tues-day. Please review any missed problems with your

Alabama History

Chapter 3: We are wrapping up our chapter on European explorers with a test on Tuesday. To prepare for the test, please review the notes we took in class.

We will continue to study the reasons for conflicts between the settlers and American Indians which led to the Creek War. We will learn about the major battles fought in Alabama during this time and the impact the Creek War had on Alabama.

Writing Workshop

In grammar, we will continue learning about compound sentences. The students will learn about the 7 coordinating conjunctions and when it is appropriate to use each one.

In writing, the students are learning how to "show, not tell" what happened in their personal narrative piece. This can be a challenge since many students want to just "tell" what happened; however, we are revising our writing by adding dialogue, thought shots, descriptive language, active verbs, etc. which enables the reader to visualize what is happening. I am so excited to see the student's growth!!

Vocabulary Words

We will alternate Vocabulary and Spelling units. Both Vocabulary and Spelling words are kept in the "Word Work" section of the binder. Due to the inclement weather day and the Boosterthon, our first Vocabulary test will be this FRIDAY. Students are NOT responsible for the spelling of vocabulary words.

SKILLS: recognizing antonyms, idioms, multiple meaning words, and meaning of the prefix -in.

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|------------------|-------------------|
| 1) bizarre | 7) reminisce |
| 2) effective | 8) trim |
| 3) ineffective | 9) transform |
| 4) get-up-and-go | 10) sidesplitting |
| 5) sag | 11) enthusiastic |
| 6) creak | 12) adore |