GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Homework
As an end of the year push, we are asking for your help. It’s going to be required that all 4th grade students complete 45 minutes of iReady math and 45 minutes of iReady reading at home each week. **This is required homework. This is in addition to what they are completing in school.** They know how to get into Launchpad and can get into iReady from there. If you don’t have access to a computer and internet at home, please let your homeroom teacher know, so they can set up time during the school day for them to complete this requirement. We appreciate your help and will be happy to answer any questions.

A Note from Ms. Fofana
In March we will discuss how to cope with negative stress and worry. In K-2nd students will learn what stress is along with several relaxation techniques. Materials that will go along with the lesson are “Wilma Jean the Worry Machine” and a RAIN coping skills power point. 4th-5th grade students will focus on middle school transition. They will learn survival tips and practice opening locker combinations!

Changes in transportation
If your child has a change in transportation please be sure to send in a written note. **Please make sure you include your child’s last name, your child’s teacher’s name and how they normally go home.** We are not allowed to accept email transportation changes. All transportation changes must have a parent signature.

Friday Folders
Friday folders have been hole punched and are in your child’s binder. Please check for important papers. **If your child has any graded papers, please be sure to sign and return on Monday.**

Headphones
Please make sure your child’s headphones are in their backpack. Students will need these in school to work on iReady.
Ms. Arnold

On Level

Next week we are beginning unit 6 on geometry. We will focus on standard 4.G1. This standard asks students to draw two-dimensional geometric objects and to also identify them in two dimensional figures. This is the first time that students are exposed to rays, angles, and perpendicular and parallel lines. Examples of points, line segments, lines, angles, parallelism, and perpendicularity can be seen daily. Students do not easily identify lines and rays because they are more abstract.

Accelerated

Next week we will classify two-dimensional figures in a hierarchy based on properties.

Mrs. Hayes

On Level

We have started working on our geometry unit with lines and angles. This week we took our pretest, made vocabulary cards for 8 new words, worked on iReady math, and talked daily about our new terms. Please ask your son/daughter about the following terms: point, line, line segment, ray, right angle, acute angle, obtuse angle, parallel lines and perpendicular lines. Next week we will continue with angles and introduce 2D shapes.

Advanced

We are working on multiplying and dividing decimals. Please look for work to come home next week.
**SCIENECE and Social Studies**

We started our unit on simple machines by understanding the meaning of work. We did an activity with a lever, and learned how the position of the fulcrum impacted the amount of force necessary to move a load. Next week we will continue learning about other simple machines.

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**Reading and Language Arts**

**Reading:**
This week we began Unit-5 Historical Fiction. We learned that historical fiction readers pay close attention to the mood and atmosphere of where the story takes place. We also learned that when reading we need to focus on the five w’s- who the story is about, what is happening, when and where the story takes place, and why certain events are happening. As readers we must identify when 'trouble is brewing' and pick up on specific details in the text that prepare us for a problem that is about to occur.

We started our new mentor text, Number the Stars, by Lois Lowry. While reading we are jotting notes in our reading response notebook.

We began our historical fiction book clubs. We were assigned a historical fiction novel to read. During the week we will have time in class to private read and then we will meet with our book club members to discuss the events taking place in the story.

Next week we will continue to work on these particular skills and learn how to identify important parts of stories and how they connect to other moments in the text.

**Writing:**
This week we began Unit 5- Historical Fiction Narrative. In this unit we will create a westward expansion story. We started our work with planning for our narratives. We created a character and gave the character internal and external traits. We created a problem for our story that our character will face and a solution to the problem.

Next week we will begin drafting possible scenes for our story focusing on bringing our story to life by adding sensory details, show not tell, and dialogue.