**This Week in Grade 4 McConaghy Monday, October 15 – Friday, October 19,2018**

Happy Safe Schools Week!

This week is Safe Schools Week. It is a week of practicing safety procedures in case they are ever requires. It is a week of reminders about school safety. Hopefully, we will never need to implement these procedures but we must be prepared. It is not the intention to scare students but to give them the necessary tools to use, if ever required.

The schedule for Safe Schools Week is as follows;

* Monday, announced Fire Drill
* Tuesday, Whole School Lockdown
* Wednesday, Bus Evacuation
* Friday, Whole School Evacuation

I will be reminding students about expectations and procedures for each event. They will be well informed ahead of time.

**Reminders**

* Monday, October 15, Picture Day, Bring your smiles!
* Tuesday, October 16, Hot Lunch Order Forms for November go home

**Honey Bee Festival**

A BIG thank you to the Parent Volunteers who accompanied us on our field trip to The Honey Festival. Congratulations to all my students on their impeccable behavior. I am very proud of you! This fieldtrip supported our Habitat Unit in Science. In the spring we will continue learning about Bees and what we can do to increase the Bee population.

**Literacy**

In Literacy, we continue to start each day with a Grammar warm up activity. I notice improvement on a daily basis. This activity review capitalization, punctuation, tense, spelling. It reinforces concepts that students have already been taught.

We have been working on making inferences, theme and main idea of given passages. Students are starting to understand these concepts and how to apply them to the passages / books they read. We will continue to work on these concepts this week. The concept of predicting will be introduced this week.

In Writing, students continue to plan their writing before starting their piece of writing. On Friday’s students are given the opportunity to write whatever form of writing they wish. Many students are enjoying creating books on a topic of their choice. Many students are busy experimenting with various forms of writing; lists, nonfiction, scary fiction. Students look forward to writing time. This week we will learn about peer editing and practicing how to complete peer editing.

AS always, students are expected to read on a nightly basis. This could be reading a picture book to a younger sibling, taking turns reading a novel with an older sibling or mom or dad. Reading the newspaper, reading a recipe that is being made. Those who read on a nightly basis will continue to grow as a reader. Those who do not read n a nightly basis usually struggle to continue to grow as a reader. It is up to parents and the child to ensure reading is done everynight!

In Math, we continue with our unit on Place Value. Students really struggled with Place Value when we first started the unit. Through daily practice everyone’s understanding of Place Value has certainly improved. We will continue with Place Value for the next couple of weeks.

Students are to start learning/ relearning their timetables. In November we will start including Times Table in our daily warm up work. I can not stress how important it is for students to know their Times Tables up to 10 times. This is something that must be worked on at home on a nightly basis. Students need to practice! Practice! Practice! Their Times Tables. There must be immediate recall. In order to be successful in Math they need to know their Times Tables. This will take more drills for some students. Please insure that your child is able to instantly recall Times Tables up to 10. There is not enough time during the school day to spend a great amount of time learning/ remembering Times Tables. Times Tables are something that must be memorized!

In Health, our focus is on Gratitude! Gratitude is the school wide focus this month. We will have our first Color Team meetings this month. Student Nurses continue to visit our class on a weekly basis. The focus, thus far, has been on Nutrition and Health Eating.

Have a wonderful week! Remember to let the office know if your child is absent from school. When you enter the school you must sign in at the office and aces to the hallways and / or classrooms is not permitted unless given the ok by office staff. Please remember this is for the safety of every student. We need to be proactive rather than reactive. Please do not motion for students to open the front door for you. This is putting students in a difficult situation. Please ring the doorbell and the office will let you in.

Remember to initial your child’s Agenda on a nightly basis. I do periodically check to ensure Agendas are being initialed.

Thad’s it for this week! Have a wonderful week! Please stay in touch!