



Sixth Grade Scoop

Free Publication

Barry School, Cortland, NY

Current Topics

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Math

- We continue to work on:
- Order of Operations (PEMDAS)
 - Exponents
 - Decimals, Fractions, Percents
 - Multiplying and Dividing Decimals
 - Algebraic Expressions

Keep practicing those multiplication facts through the 12s!



Science

We are finishing up our Ponds and Wetlands unit and focusing on Cells and Microbes!

- Lime Hollow Pond Exploration
- Observations of organisms from Lime Hollow pond
- Focus on Cells-parts and jobs
- CELL PROJECT coming up soon!



Important Dates



10/16	Barry's 50th Year Celebration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:00 PM— School Assembly and ice cream • 7:00 PM— Celebration Program
10/23	Field Trip to Lime Hollow (outdoor survival)
10/30	Harvest Festival
11/11	NO SCHOOL — Veteran's Day
11/20	NO SCHOOL — Parent Conference Day

Social Studies

- Geography of Fertile Crescent and Mesopotamia
 - Life in Mesopotamia and contributions
 - Early forms of writing (pictographs and cuneiform)
- Earliest recorded code of laws (Hammurabi's Code)



Continued on the back . . .



Reading and Writing News



Miss Podsiedlik

We continue to focus on paragraph **writing** and will begin incorporating this into letter writing soon.

This week we will begin our **Reader's Notebooks**. In our notebooks we will keep a log of our reading this year and next week we will begin writing letters about our independent reading books. Each child is responsible for one letter per week which will be graded and responded to. There are suggestions for letter topics and grading rubrics for the letters in the blue section of the Reader's Notebook.

We continue to **read independently**. The AR quarter will end on November 6th, and students should have earned 75% (or more) of their points by Friday October 23rd. Please continue encouraging them to read for at least 20 minutes at day at home. We are still **reading** our first class novel, Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli. We've been thinking hard about how difficult our lives would be if we were in Maniac's shoes. Maniac is also teaching us new and fun vocabulary words.

Mrs. Sidebottom

In **Reading Workshop**, we continue to use our Reader's Notebooks by keeping a log of our reading throughout the year and writing letters WEEKLY about our independent reading books. Each child is responsible for one letter/week which will be graded and responded to. Feel free to ask to see your child's Reader's Notebook any time.

We are **reading independently** and the AR quarter will end on November 6th. Many children have done a great job getting right into their IR, while others are struggling to find 'just the right books'. Please encourage your child to read daily at home for at least 20 minutes! We continue **reading** a class novel, The Cay, by Theodore Taylor. We are interested to see the main character's feelings towards his 'raft partner'. See what your child thinks...

We are focusing on paragraph **writing** and will continue our whole group mini-lessons to encourage staying with the topic. Ask to see your child's writer's notebook.

Mr. Caravella

In **Reading Workshop**, students continue to focus on choosing and reading good books and reaching their independent reading goals. The quarter will end on November 6th and students should have read at least 6 books at their level by that time. Please continue to encourage them to read at home.

We have also begun a read-aloud of Baseball in April and Other Stories, by Gary Soto. This is a collection of short stories about growing up. Students have been focused on making connections to their own lives, and using these connections to inspire their own writing.

In **Writing Workshop**, students continue to learn new strategies for using their Writer's Notebook to write about their lives. We recently explored writing about unforgettable stories that move us and things that we wonder about.

Teammate of the Week: Ezra

Announcements



League 56 Academy

The League 56 Academy after school program began last week and continues through November 24th. The program is on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30-4:00 PM, beginning on October 6th through November 24th. If you are still interested in participating, please return the parent consent forms.



You are invited!

What: 50th Year Celebration
When: Friday, October 16, 2009 at 7:00 PM
Where: Barry School

Lime Hollow



On Wednesday, 10/14, the students learned all about pond ecosystems at Lime Hollow Nature Center. Thank you to Susan Stratton from SUNY Cortland and all of her college students for making this experience possible!