



Sixth Grade Scoop

Free Publication

Barry School, Cortland, NY

Current Topics

Inside this issue:

Important Dates	1
Current Topics	1
ELA News	2
Announcements	2

Email:
 acaravella@cortlandschools.org
 csidebottom@cortlandschools.org
 epodsiedlik@cortlandschools.org

Phone:
 (607) 758-4150

Math

We continue working with decimals, percents, and fractions:

- Multiplying decimals
- Dividing decimals
- Word problems
- Real life applications (exploring recipes)



Science

We've completed our cell unit:

- Cell unit test-Nov 10
- **CELL PROJECTS: FANTASTIC!!**
- Viruses and bacteria: flu and H1N1 (very interesting how viruses spread! Ask your child...)
- Next week we will begin our hands on electromagnetism unit!



Important Dates

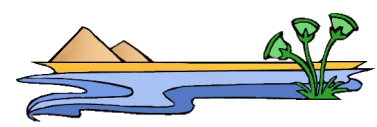


11/19	Picture retakes
11/19-11/23	Book Fair
11/20	NO SCHOOL — Parent Conference Day
11/25-11/27	NO SCHOOL — Thanksgiving Recess
12/1	Fundraiser pick-up in cafeteria

Social Studies

We have concluded our unit on Mesopotamia and are beginning a new unit on Ancient Egypt.

- Introduction to Ancient Egypt and geography
- Ancient Egyptian life
- Ancient Egyptian writing (hieroglyphics)
- How and why mummies were made



Continued on the back . . .



Reading and Writing News



Miss Podsiedlik

Our **Reader's Notebooks** are a lot of fun. This past week we focused on writing about the genre of our independent reading book. Next week our letters will focus on whether or not we would recommend the book to another reader and why. The why is the most important part. Our letters should be filled with details from our stories to back up our opinions.

The first **AR** quarter ended on November 6th. The majority of our class was able to meet their goal, bravo! We have established new goals for the next quarter, ask your student to share their goal and progress with you. Please continue encouraging them to read for at least 20 minutes at day at home.

We will be finishing our first class novel, Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli soon. We are really enjoying the story and have had many great discussions about the characters.

This week we continued practicing our letter **writing**. We wrote letters to our fellow 6th grade team members about how we are doing this year.

Mrs. Sidebottom

In **Reading Workshop**, we continue to write letters WEEKLY about our independent reading books. Your child has an assigned day it is due each week.

Only half of the class reached their AR goal this quarter. Mostly importantly, this means that SOME children are not reading enough independently. Please remind your child to read daily.

We finished our class novel, The Cay, by Theodore Taylor. The children seemed to genuinely enjoy the survival story which focused on friendship and understanding. They were sad to read about Timothy's death and displayed real concern for Phillip's well being. Next week, we will read Time For Kids each day as a class, discussing important current events and then we will begin a new class novel the following week.

We are writing in our writer's notebook, writing letters about 6th grade and completing self-evaluations about our progress so far this year. Look for this at conferences!

Mr. Caravella

In **Reading Workshop**, we continue to focus on identifying the genre of the books we read. We have enjoyed several different stories, across different genres, and have discussed the distinguishing features of each. In addition, we continue to focus on choosing and reading good books independently. This quarter students must read 7 chapter books at their level. Please continue to encourage them to read at home.

In **Writing Workshop**, students continue to use their Writer's Notebook to write about their lives. In addition, students have been working on a persuasive letter to new parents about why they think it is important to read to newborns. Through a project with the Family Reading Partnership and the Books at Birth program, we are hoping that our letters will go home with the new parents of all babies born at Cortland Regional Hospital, along with a special book, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle.

Teammate of the Week (last week): Abbie

Teammate of the Week (this week): Caitlyn

Announcements



League 56 Academy

The League 56 Academy after school program 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.

Give the Gift of Family Reading

The Family Reading Partnership of Cortland County and the Seven Valley Reading Council are holding a book drive that provides low-income families with **NEW** books to give their children for the holidays.

Give the Gift of Family Reading volunteers will be collecting **NEW** books for children aged newborn to teen. All **NEW** books are due by **December 7th**.

