**3D News**

**October 2014**

**Reading Workshop**

Currently we are studying Comprehension: Reading is Thinking. Students are reading “wide awake” by paying attention to character actions, visualizing the text, questioning the text, making connections, and predicting. We will be focusing on these skills throughout the month of October. To help transfer these skills at home, please ask your child questions about the text they are reading. For example, “what is the theme of your story? How do you know that is the theme?” I will provide resources to assist you with this at conferences.

**Writing Workshop**

We are finishing up our Personal Narrative stories and will continue to write narratives until the end of October. Students are working on “writing from the heart,” paragraph format, editing and revising. Students are continuing to to add punctuation and capitalize letters to their writing as well.

To help with spelling, students use Quick Word and the Word Wall Word to help them spell unfamiliar or commonly misspelled words. It’s also important for students to use sound chunks they know to help them.

**Math Workshop**

A notice was sent out in the middle of September regarding our current unit in Math. Every new unit a district letter will be sent home with details and new strategies they are learning. We are currently studying place value, addition and subtraction.

**Science & Social Studies**

We are studying the Living River Basin System. To support this unit, we will be taking a field trip to the Mill River on Wednesday, October 22, 2014. Permission slips have been sent home. Please return them by Friday, October 17th.

In Social Studies, we are practicing map skills: globe, continents, oceans, and directions.

**Highlighted Authors and Read Aloud**

Students have thoroughly enjoyed our class read alouds. Children often enjoy re-reading books, especially chapter books, they have already read. We have read the following books in 3D so far:

**Third Grade Angels** by Jerry Spinelli

**How to be Cool in Third Grade** by Betsy Duffey

**My Father’s Dragon** by Ruth Stiles Gannett

We also highlighted Roald Dahl, a beloved children’s author. Some of the titles we touched based on were **The Twits, The Witches, James and the Giant Peach,** and **The BFG**. You can find these titles, among many others, at the Public Library.

**Scholastic**

Many thanks to all of the families who ordered from Scholastic Reading Club. We were able to earn 50 FREE books for our classroom library! I would also like to thank all of the families who donated items off of our classroom wish list. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

 We will not be doing a Scholastic Reading Club order for the month of October due to the Scholastic Book Fair at Holland Hill. More information will be provided as soon as it’s available. Reading Club will resume in November.

**Halloween**

**Parade & Celebration**

Holland Hill’s Annual Halloween Parade will take place on Friday, October 31, 2014 from 1:00 to 1:45pm on the school property. Our Halloween celebration will promptly take place following the parade.

Students should bring their costumes to school in a labeled bag. Parent helpers will help assist children with their costumes after lunch. Please refer to Mrs. Cretella’s letter regarding the parade and appropriate costume attire.

**Important Dates**

Naglieri - 10/14

CogAT - 10/15, 10/16, 10/17

Fire Prevention - 10/15

Mill River Field Trip - 10/22

Conferences (Early Release) - 10/23, 10/29, 10/30

Halloween Parade/Celebration - 10/31