

November 7, 2019

**Highlights:**

**Fall Conference Sign-Up:** November 14<sup>th</sup> is the school-wide date for when conference sign-ups “go live.” I will send out a *SignUpGenius* link in an e-mail, on that day.

**Celebrate Education Activity:** Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 11:00 (see below)

**Holiday Boutique-** December 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:15

Dear Parents,

I hope this note finds you and your family happy, well, and enjoying autumn! The year is rolling along, and the class has been focused and hard at work on a great variety of things.

❖ **What We Have Been Working On**

In **social studies**, we have been working with basic geography skills, as well as learning about the physical geography of the United States. Today, students completed a “United States Physical Features” map. They are to use this to study for next Friday’s geography test.

In **reading**, students have been using our standardized reading materials, LEAD 21, to work through a unit entitled, “*Common Ground*.” Next week, we will be working on reading fluency, by preparing to put on “fractured fairytale” plays, for our first-grade buddies.

In **language arts**, our focus is currently on “informative writing.” Students are currently researching and generating a 5-6 paragraph paper on a Native American tribe.

In **math**, my math class is working with fractions, in Chapter 2.

## ❖ Reading at Home

This is just a reminder that a portion (roughly 20-30 minutes) of each evening's 50 minutes of homework, entails your child reading independently. I know how easy it is to fall out of the habit of doing so, and simply wanted to give you a reminder. 😊

## ❖ Celebrate Education Week

On Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 to 11:00, we will "Celebrate Education." First, from 10:00-10:15, students in my math class will be available to review the day's math lesson, with their parents. After that, at about 10:15, the entire class will be doing a geography activity that we hope you can join us to complete. Students (with parent/peer assistance) will be following step-by-step instructions in order to draw a (fairly) "to scale" map of the United States. This can be challenging for some, so your presence and assistance are very welcome. If you cannot make it, you will still be able to see the finished products, which will be sent home, at some time, after their completion.

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Know that I will contact you if any concerns arise on my end.

May your heart be filled with peace- no matter  
how tumultuous the world around you,  
Mr. VanZant