



March



Holy Cross Lutheran
Wichita, KS

March 9, 2018

Mrs. Thomas' Classroom Newsletter

2018 Iditarod Race-

We watched the mushers leave Anchorage and hit the trail this week. I hope that the kids will continue to watch their mushers over the next week at home as well as in class at www.iditarod.com. Just a reminder that the students' Iditarod books are due on March 27. There are eight different activities in the book, and it will count as eight Social Studies grades. It is important for them to take their time and not wait until the last weekend to finish! We are completing some in class.

Iditarod Reader-

The fourth graders reading their way to Nome. I am awarding each student 50 miles on the trail for each AR point they read. I am confident that we will have students cross the finish line before spring break! It will take 20 points to reach Nome. The race ends on Tuesday, March 27 at 3:30, so we will see who gets there! Happy reading!

Reading-

We continued our discussion on the different opinions people have on how advancements in science can be helpful or harmful to people or the environment. We looked at texts of differing opinions of intensive farming and the use of nuclear energy and discussed the viewpoints of each and the proof the author gave to persuade us one way or the other. The genre of the week was persuasive text. We started reading the heart-warming story *Stone Fox* by John Reynolds Gardiner this week. It is about a ten-year-old boy who entered the National Dogsled Race in Jackson, Wyoming in hopes of winning the prize money to use to pay the back taxes for his grandfather's farm. He had to race against Stone Fox who wanted the prize money just as badly to buy back the land of his people that had been taken from him. The idea for the story came from a Rocky Mountain legend shared with the author. Although the characters were fictitious, the tragic ending was part of the legend and reported to have happened.

English-

We worked with contractions, finding the meaning of words by using context clues, and forming questions for interviews. We started to review the unit for the test on Thursday.

Religion-

We completed our discussion of Jonah and were encouraged when we were reminded that God in Christ offers His love, grace, and forgiveness to all people, regardless of their race, gender, age, or nationality. We started looking at the three men in the fiery furnace. Memory work for Tuesday will be the Fourth Commandment and its meaning: Honor your father and your mother. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

Social Studies-

We worked a lot this week with the Iditarod. We looked at what characteristics the dogs in the Iditarod have, why the race was started, and historical information. We have been watching live footage of the race off and on compliments of the PTL as they purchased a subscription for the class (thank you) and have been tracking the mushers multiple times a day as well. We also read about and discussed economic specialization in the Atlantic Coast states, the three branches of government, why tourism, fishing, and farming are major industries here, as well as the cultural diversity of the Gulf Coast states.



Science-

We explored forms of energy and inferred how energy makes things move or change.

Math-

We described transformations of a figure, found fractions of a set, and described the amount and direction of a turn. Today we divided with three-digit answers. The next test will be after spring break.

Spelling-

We tested over compound words this week. The next spelling test will be the Tuesday after spring break.

Spanish-

The students were quizzed over their tableware vocabulary in Spanish. At the dinner table, ask your 4th grader if he/she can tell you how to say plate, spoon, fork, knife, salt shaker or teacup. They started studying the Spanish alphabet and how the vowel sounds are different than the English pronunciation of vowels.

He is risen celebration!
Tuesday, April 3rd, 2:50

Cari Koster-sweets
Karen Johnson-sweets
Pam Amey-salty snack
Ann Harms-cheese & crackers
Emily Juhnke-fruit
Becky Kuhlman-drinks
Stacey Bulleigh-plates & napkins
Lori Goodwin
Marcie Kelly
Rebecca Keene

(The room parents will send reminders as well.)

Next Week's Highlights

Monday

Pajama Day

Tuesday

Memory Work

Disney Day

Wednesday

School Uniforms

Thursday

Class t-shirt & Jeans

English Test

Friday

Grandparent's Day/Early Dismissal

Free Dress Day

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 11th-

Grades 3-5 Sing, 8:15 Service

March 12th-16th-

Lutheran Schools Week/Scholastic Book Fair

Thursday, March 15th-

K-5th Spring Musical, 7 pm

Friday, March 16th-

Grandparents Day, 8:15-11:00; School dismisses at 11:00

March 19th-23rd-

NO SCHOOL-SPRING BREAK

March 26th-29th-

State Testing, Grades 3-8

Wednesday, March 28th-

AR Assembly, 2:45 pm

Thursday, March 29th-

Report Cards Issued/Box Top/Label Collection

Friday, March 30th-

NO SCHOOL - Good Friday

Monday, April 2nd-

NO SCHOOL- Easter Monday



Week 1

tasted

flipped

tapping

discussed

ripping

scared

saved

saving

forced

flagged

skipping

tasting

flipping

ripped

scaring

forcing

tapped

skipped

flagging

discussing

Review & Challenge Words

bedspread

desktop

snowstorm

outwitted

underscoring

Spelling Test: Tuesday March 27th