

← Back

4th Grade Update 12.03.2021

Paul Rendón • 2 months ago • Friday, Dec 3 at 5:36 PM • **4th Grade**

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

It is clear that the upcoming holiday season is already in the minds and hearts of the 4th graders! They returned to school this week from our “Fall-iday” break with high energy and enthusiasm.


IMPORTANT:

We invite you to participate in our Winter Family Traditions for the week of 12/13-12/17. Families may share a winter tradition with the class. This can be a favorite book that your family reads, storytelling of a favorite holiday activity, etc. Please reach out if this is something you’re interested in and we will find a time for you in our schedule for that week.

Below are some highlights from this week followed by some items that are upcoming when we return from break.

- In math, we started a new unit on Multiplication Stories and Strategies which opens with a set of multiplication story problems. Students will have opportunities to share and extend their strategies for working with single- and double-digit multiplication as well as solving multi-step story problems. We used small-group math lessons throughout the week for more focused, direct support and enrichment.
- In literacy rotations, we continue small group work in reading, comprehension skills, and writing. We are doing word work with short vowel sounds. Students are engaging with these words through sorts, editing, analogies, and more.
- We are completing our final drafts of our Brown Bag essays. We are now starting the final step of creating a triptych drawing of the three special items. This artwork will accompany their final drafts.
- We continued our small, mixed-class groups for our specialty classes of Learning Garden, Art, and Music. Spanish and PE are taught to each whole class separately.
- In science, we used our nature journals to make scientific observations of plants in the Sunken Garden. The students followed the following guidelines of what to include in their entries:
 - The generic and scientific name
 - A detailed illustration using your eyes and your field scope
 - The date and location
 - A short description of your observations
 - At least 3 bullet point facts from researching your plant online

The teachers used the “Seek” app from iNaturalist to ID the plants for each student. Here is Sara's class observing out in the field:

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- We continued to follow all of our detailed COVID protocols, including being outside at least 50% of the day. We are using our outdoor tent classroom as well as the “patio,” our outdoor space right outside of our classrooms, in addition to outdoor recess and lunchtime and various specialties. Additionally, we continued our twice-weekly COVID testing which the students handled with ease.

Upcoming next week:

- Create a timeline page for our social studies unit on Indigenous-European Contact, including a creative writing piece.

- Continue our math unit on double-digit multiplication.
- Continue Literacy and Math rotations to work in small groups for support and enrichment.
- Have all of our regular specialties and reading buddies sessions, as well as our regular twice-weekly Covid testing.

Hoping you have a relaxing weekend.

Best,

Sara, Paul, Claire, and Jalen