

Student Name _____

Number _____

Foothill Elementary 3rd Grade

FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

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| Mrs. Hardy's Class lhardy@alpine.k12.ut.us | Week: September 28 – October 4, 2007 (Due 10/05/07) http://foothill.alpinedistrict.org |
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Parent Initial

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| Weekend | Read _____ minutes | |
| Monday | Read _____ minutes | |
| Tuesday | Read _____ minutes | |
| Wednesday | Read _____ minutes PE--Remember to wear appropriate shoes and clothing. | |
| Thursday | Read _____ minutes LIBRARY--Remember to bring your library book for return or renewal. | |

Total reading minutes for the week (120 minutes required) _____

Math: On Monday, great cheers filled the room when I announced we were starting multiplication. We have been answering the question, "What is multiplication?" The students discovered that multiplication is adding groups; therefore, repeated addition and skip counting are useful tools. Also, the students worked with arrays to help create mental pictures of multiplication. The students noted that division is the opposite (reverse operation) of multiplication, and multiplication is commutative. Ask your child to explain commutative. It is like commuting in a car to work. The homework this week will focus on the concept of multiplication. By December, I would like every child to have immediate recall (memorization) of multiplication facts from 0 to 15. We will start our multiplication memorization 10/8/07; but right now, I want the students to focus on and internalize what multiplication represents.

Moon Phase Extra Credit: For those students who want a challenge or want to improve their science grade, the students may write a five-paragraph essay on moon facts using our Bing, Bang, Bongo outline. If your child wants to participate, please take your child to the library and let him/her select a book or books about the moon. Ask your child to select three facts about the moon without using the exact words from the book. The student will write a paper using a similar format as noted below. Tell your child to follow the "I like cookies" format learned in class.

Extra credit paper is due by October 5, 2007.

(1st paragraph) The moon is an important part of our solar system. Three facts about the moon are (1), (2), and (3).

(2nd paragraph) The first fact about the moon is _____. (Student gives details supporting the first fact.)

(3rd paragraph) The first fact about the moon is _____. (Student gives details supporting the second fact.)

(4th paragraph) The first fact about the moon is _____. (Student gives details supporting the third fact.)

(5th paragraph) Three facts about the moon are (1), (2), and (3). The moon is an important part of our solar system.

SEP Conference: Held 10/16/07 & 10/18/07. Foothill Elementary uses the Online Scheduler to make SEP appointments. Please see attached instructions for scheduling your appointment time online.

PowerSchool: See attached login change notice.

Reflections: The PTA reflections program is perfect for ALL students. ALL students are creative. They want to work on an independent project of their choice. ALL students seek a challenge and a forum for personal expression. The reflections program offers this opportunity; therefore, I am assigning the reflections project as a homework assignment. The theme for reflections is "I Can Make a Difference By . . ." If you are not familiar with this program, please view the website www.utahpta.org, select reflections, then select guidelines and rules. **The project is due November 14, 2007.** Math homework is less this week to allow time for project brainstorming and project completion mapping. Don't procrastinate. Start this assignment today. You will be happier with your results and enjoy the process much more. I can't wait to see the projects. I know they will be amazing!

Book Clubs: Five wonderful parents are running small group book clubs in our classroom. Your child is part of a book club and participates in discussing a book with 4 or 5 other students and a mother every Monday until December. Please join me in thanking Heather Densley, Susan Dunn, Deanne Moses, Traci Parson, and Diane Samudio for offering their time and knowledge, making literature study meaningful and enjoyable.

PARENT SIGNATURE: Please sign below confirming you have read the newsletter and reviewed the homework pages. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS
By Aria Gerson and Mrs. Gerson

The Report Card by Andrew Clements

A really gifted girl named Nora (grade 5) does not want to be in the gifted program, so she hides her talent. Her only problem is her report card, which is all Cs and Ds. Because of her low grades, she has to take a lot of tests including an IQ test. Will everyone find out her secret?

The Secret School by Avi

The teacher at a one-room school has to quit suddenly leaving the children, ages 6 – 14, without a teacher. When the stingy superintendent decides to shut down the school, the children take matters into their own hands and elect Ida, the smartest student in class, to be their teacher. But Ida is just a kid. Can she be both teacher and student? And can the children keep their school a secret?

The Sisters Grimm: The Fairy-Tale Detectives by Michael Buckley

After the parents of ten-year-old Sabrina and her seven-year-old sister, Daphne, disappear, the girls are taken in by their long lost grandmother who lives in a town where fairy tales are really true. When grandma is captured in front of their eyes, the girls must take over the family's detective business and rescue her.

Whittington by Alan Armstrong

This story starts with a hodgepodge of animals taken in by the kindhearted owner of the farm, Bernie and his grandkids Ben and Abby (ages 8 and 10). When Ben tells the animals about his trouble with reading the animals make a plan to help boost his confidence and teach him to read. They convince Abby to give them all reading lessons in the barn. After the difficult lessons

Whittington, the cat, a master storyteller, entertains the whole bunch with adventurous tales of his namesake, the great Dick Whittington.

Homesick by Jean Fritz

Jean was born to American parents in China. She grew up American, went to a British school, and had a Chinese nanny. Jean longs to go to America even though she has never been there. She has many adventures including being threatened by a bully at school for not singing the British national anthem, being forgotten in a game of hide-and-seek, being called a foreign devil, adopting a cat, getting evacuated by boat on the Yangtze River, and finally traveling home to America for the first time. This is a fictionalized autobiography that takes place when Jean is 10 at the start of the communist revolution in China.