



Mr. Huyck's Fourth-Grade  
M. L. King Elementary School



Friday, October 11, 2024

Volume XXXII, Issue #6, Day 32

Website (<http://www.a2schools.org/Domain/1628>)

Dear families,

We continue to keep busy and productive in room 103. In math, we are completing Unit 1. In writing, we wrote pen pal letters and began thinking about writing goals. In reading, we are strong in our Lexia and Independent Reading routines, and nearing the end of our fall reading assessments. In science, we made progress on our unit: *Built For Survival*. Please enjoy learning more about your child's classroom and school activities.

Information, Reminders, and Upcoming Activities

Star Student: Our Star Students this week are: Mahati 10/15, Connor 10/16, Henrik 10/17, & Merrick 10/18. During Round Two, to help us continue to get to know each other better, please remind your child to bring in around five representative items to share with classmates.



Homework: Please continue to help your child complete the weekly expectations (DreamBox, Lexia, read at home, & facts practice). Also, please help your child complete the list of misc. conversation items. Return the list by Friday, 10/18.

The Wild Robot Field Trip: All of the 4<sup>th</sup>-grade will read the book, *The Wild Robot*, in connection with our first reading unit: Analyzing Characters. After thoroughly enjoying, discussing, and analyzing the characters, we are planning to take our students to see the movie, *The Wild Robot*, rated PG. This event offers a great opportunity for students to enjoy a fun and educational experience together. After returning from our trip, we look forward to enriching our learning by comparing/contrasting our character analysis that we gathered from the book to our character analysis generating from the movie.

We will travel to the Emagine Theater in Saline on Friday, 12/6, at 9:30, and return to King at 12:45 pm. A permission slip was included in your child's Friday Folder. Please return by Friday, 10/18. If possible, please encourage and allow your child to wait on viewing the movie until we attend as a class.

Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences: We completed a few parent-teacher meetings so far, with another round coming this Wednesday (10/16) evening. Thank you for your prompt arrivals and insightful conversations. I look forward to our upcoming meetings.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FABA62BA3F85-51425757-mrhuyck#/>

Ticket to Taste Form: In order for your child to participate in misc. special snacks this year, please complete the *Ticket to Taste* form. There will be a special snack provided during the upcoming Turkey Trot activity. You may have already completed this form, as it was part of the welcome email message that

was sent at the beginning of the school year. If you're not sure, either email Mr. Huyck, or simply completed the form again.

**Ticket to Taste Form:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc7fDdkd3WSf3TntSuVcdCWDurWROQw6W7gJKI-lQ-uaHWSBQ/viewform>

**Bingo Draw:** We enjoyed our first Bingo Draw reward this past Friday. Students built forts and used their flashlights/lanterns to enjoy a variety of relaxing activities. We are now working on earning our second reward.

**New Jobs:** We chose new jobs this past week. We will choose new jobs again on Friday, 10/25.

**Picture Day:** Picture Day is this Tuesday, 10/15 (when we return from Fall Break).

**DTE Energy Program:** On Tuesday, 10/15, we will have a special presentation about energy. The students will learn about a variety of items connected to energy, specifically how to reduce our energy use. Students will receive a kit of items that can be used to save energy. If you decide that you will not use the items in the kit, then please either pass them on to another friend or family member, or return to Mr. Huyck and he will find a home for them.

**Bagel Friday:** Come out and enjoy our second *Bagel Friday* event this Friday, 10/18.

**Seat Locations:** We will move our seat locations this Friday, 10/18.

**Buddies:** Our next *Buddies!* time will be this Friday, 10/18.

**Science/Social Studies/Health Rotation:** We will rotate for science/social studies/health on Monday, 10/21. Our class will visit Ms. Karkau first. Over the next several months will rotate every three weeks. We plan to end on Friday, 3/21.

**Harvest Moon Festival:** The Harvest Moon Festival is on Wednesday, 10/23, at 5:30. This is a favorite activity for many students.

**October Early-Release Day:** Our next Early-Release Day is on Thursday, 10/31. Students will eat lunch at school. The dismissal process begins at 12:52.

**No school on 11/5:** Please recall that there will be no school on Tuesday, 11/5, for Election Day.

**Turkey Trot:** The annual Turkey Trot will be on Friday, 11/15.

**Fall Reports & NWEA Reports:** The fall reports and NWEA reports will be sent out via email on Tuesday, 11/26.

### Recent and upcoming activities connected to our subject areas:

\*Writing/Word Study: This past week we learned how to write friendly letters by writing pen pal letters to our new U of M pen pals, brainstormed skills and things that writers do as they complete strong writing pieces, added to our animal structure diagrams, and enjoyed independent writing routine. Coming up, we will establish writing goals, begin our Word Study routine, and move on to our first unit of study: *Realistic Fiction Stories*.



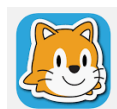
\*Reading: We are making excellent progress on our fall reading assessments, and plan to finish them early this week. Overall, the students have performed well. We are especially strong in accuracy and fluency. Our greatest need, which is the same every year and common for 4<sup>th</sup>-graders, is to focus on comprehension. As your child reads at home you can help build comprehension by engaging in relaxed reading conversations through the year. You can ask questions such as: What are you reading about? What is the genre? What are you learning about? Who are the characters? What is the main problem? What was the solution? Was there a message from the author? Was there a lesson that the characters learned? Or, if you know the actual text, you can ask more detailed questions. Following the completion of our reading assessments we will be able to engage more in our read-aloud, establish reading goals, work on essential reading skills, and draw closer to beginning our first reading unit: *Analyzing Characters*.



\*Math: We will complete Unit 1 this week and then complete the end of unit assessment. This past week the students studied units of length (inches, feet, yards), and focused on geometry by drawing, labeling, and naming points, line segments, rays, and lines. Over the next week or two we will wrap-up Unit 1, begin Unit 2, continue practicing facts, learn a valuable routine called Partner Check, and continue DreamBox.



\*Science: In PLTW, Mr. Tomsik continues to work on computer science (coding) with the students. We continued our science unit, *Built for Survival*. The students have been thinking about how plants and animals use their structures to survive. Students created a diagram about animal structures (and functions). We began discussing plant structures this past week.



\*SEL (Social-Emotional Learning): Our Star Student sharing time continues to be an important part of our day. We've built our community and created a sense of belonging. We will soon begin our SEL Trails curriculum. In addition, SEL weaves its way through everything we do. There are "teaching moments" that arise through each and every day. Daily, we talk about the *Zones of Regulation*, in which students identify whether they are in the blue, green, yellow, or red zones. Ask your child about it.



### Misc. Important Items

#### Our Class Schedule:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12jbc4RP8cxII9Xwwmc\\_gA1BJJluG-RsK/edit?gid=143570637#gid=143570637](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12jbc4RP8cxII9Xwwmc_gA1BJJluG-RsK/edit?gid=143570637#gid=143570637)

#### Mrs. Berger's Website (our music teacher):

[musicwithmrscheeseberger.weebly.com](http://musicwithmrscheeseberger.weebly.com).

King Dream Keeper Newsletter (from our principals):

<https://www.smores.com/xsp3g>

Attendance/Absences: If your child needs to be absent, or is being picked up early, please use one or more of the links below. **When picking up your child early, always ring the bell for the office first. Office staff will let you know the next steps.**

Email the teacher and t

- he office at [kingattendance@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:kingattendance@aaps.k12.mi.us)
- Call the school at 734.994.1940

Our Class Website: Please visit our classroom website occasionally. You can find documents that have been previously sent home, newsletters/updates, a calendar of upcoming items, and more:

<https://www.a2schools.org/Domain/1628>

**Have a great week!**

**-Mr. Huyck**