



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



Friday, September 13, 2024
Volume XXXII, Issue #2, Day 13

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

Dear families,

It has been a good first three weeks of school. Similar to the first two weeks, this past week we continued working on *Start-Up* items. We also began firming up our schedule and started working on our academic areas more consistently. We finished brainstorming *hopes & dreams*, which aided us in determining our classroom rules. Our hopes and dreams will help us as we seek to establish goals and targets in academic and behavioral/social areas. We also continued a few assessments and improved at numerous routines and procedures.

Please enjoy taking a few moments to learn more about some of your child's classroom and school activities.

Information, Reminders, and Upcoming Activities

Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences: Our fall Parent-Teacher meetings will take place between 10/10 and 10/22. I look forward to engaging in conversation with you.

Please sign-up for a Fall Parent-Teacher Conference via the link below. In the "My Comment" box, please remember to add your child's name.

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

Star Student: Henrik 9/16, Merrick 9/17, Aidan 9/18, Amarya 9/19, and Oliver 9/20. We have a new Star Student each day. The Star Student helps with numerous special jobs/roles each day. For the first-round, students are sharing their *All About Me* page that we've already completed in class. For the second-round, students will bring in a few representative items to share with classmates (similar to the Bag/Box sharing we did the second day).



NWEA: All students have completed the NWEA assessments. The students acted responsibly, worked diligently, and kept positive attitudes. The fall NWEA results will be included with the fall reports that will be sent out via email in November. Our next round of NWEA testing will be in January.

Curriculum Night: Thank you for your attendance at last week's Curriculum Night. It was great to meet so many of you. If you would like additional curriculum information please see the document posted on our website.

Dismissal Plans: Please email me as changes occur in your child's dismissal plans. Even at the fourth-grade level students sometimes get confused about what they should do at the end of the school day.

New Jobs: The students are an integral part of the management and organization of our classroom. They helped choose our jobs/roles and complete them every day. To help keep things fair, and to allow the students to explore a variety of jobs, we choose new jobs every two weeks. We chose new jobs this past Friday. We will choose new jobs again on Friday, 9/27.

Moving our Seat Locations: Students help choose their seat locations (with guidance from the teacher). As much as possible, as a school, we try to allow students choice, or least to be part of the decision making in our classroom. We move our seat locations once per month. This allows us to get to know our classmates better, view the room from a new perspective, and have more voice/decision making in the classroom. We moved our seat locations this past Friday. We will move them again on Friday, 10/18.

Fire Drill: We have our first Fire Drill on Monday, 9/16, at 9:45. We will practice how to evacuate our classroom quickly, silently, and safely.

Buddies: We will enjoy working with our first-grade buddies from Ms. Hong's class Friday, 9/20. Many classes at our school have buddies (classes from the upper grades team up with students from the younger grades). Through the year we will enjoy many activities together, such as: reading & writing, playing learning games, engaging in math activities, making crafts together, special recesses, and more. For our first meeting, we will share our *All About Me* pages and read together. We typically meet every three weeks.

Severe-Weather Drill: We have our first Severe-Weather Drill on Monday, 9/23, at 2:15. We will practice how to move to a safer location in the event of a tornado warning.

Early-Release Day: Our first Early-Release day is on Wednesday, 9/24. Students will eat lunch at school. The dismissal process will begin at 12:52.

Field Trip: We are going on a field trip to Gallup Park on Thursday, 9/26, to view the *Embracing Our Differences* exhibit. If not completed at Curriculum Night, a permission slip should be included in your child's Friday Folder.

Bagel Friday: Come out and enjoy our first Bagel Friday event of the year on 9/27.

Safety (Lockdown, Security) Drill: Our first Safety, or Lockdown/Security, Drill will be Monday, 9/30, at 2:45. In this drill, students think about what to do in a building emergency that is NOT connected to a Fire Drill or Severe-Weather Drill. Students sit silently, awaiting directions from their adult leader.

Fall Break: Our Fall Break begins on Friday, 10/11. School resumes on Tuesday, 10/15 (Picture Day).

Picture Day: Picture Day will be on Tuesday, 10/15.

Recent and upcoming activities connected to our subject areas:

*Writing: We continued thinking about writing & writers, why writing is important, and how people use writing to communicate. We worked an assessment writing piece in which students wrote to Mr. Huyck about themselves, and worked on Lexia. Over the next week or two, we will establish our independent writing routine, think about writers do & work on writing goals, focus on basic skills & mechanics, and complete word study assessments. Once our foundation is set, we will move on to our first unit of study: *Realistic Fiction Stories*.



*Reading: We completed the NWEA reading assessment. We continued thinking about reading & readers, why reading is important, and how people use reading (such as: for entertainment, to relax, or to learn). Over the next week or two, we will learn more about our classroom library, our independent reading routine (which involves choosing "just right" texts), work on our Lexia routine on the computer, reading goals, review genres & texts, and more important foundation building items/skills.



*Math: We completed the NWEA math assessment. We continued thinking about math & mathematicians, why math is important, and how people use math in their lives and jobs. We also worked on a variety of assessments, and began our DreamBox routine. In the next week or two we will continue our DreamBox routine, think about goals, and begin Unit 1, which is titled: Place Value-Multidigit Addition and Subtraction. Lastly, as needed, students will begin working on basic multiplication/division facts.



*SEL (Social-Emotional Learning): Our Star Student sharing time is an important part of our day. We've also established our rules, jobs, got to know each other, and much more.

*Science (PLTW): This year, Project Lead The Way is once per week, for an hour in length. Mr. Tomsik is currently helping the students with coding using the app *Scratch*.



Misc. Important Items

Our Class Schedule:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12jbc4RP8cxII9Xwwmc_gA1BJJluG-RsK/edit?gid=143570637#gid=143570637

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

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 the office at 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