Reminders:

* Fall has finally arrived! Enjoy the cool-down today as students end their week early! ☺ Teachers have Collaboration Day together (without students) on Friday, 9/23.
* Keep scrolling for details on what we are doing in each subject.

The WEEKS AHEAD

9/23 - School Closed / Collaboration Day

10/7 PTO Fall Social

10/10 - Vision & Hearing Screening

10/11 and 12 - Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30 pm

10/13 - No School, Conferences

10/14– No School

10/21 - Picture Retake Day

Friday, 10/28 - Halloween parade and parties

**Academics:**

Math:

For the past couple of weeks our Topic has focused on kids adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers. We have dipped into the related properties—kids are testing these terms out and getting to know them, slowly but surely. A challenge has been to subtract when the minuend (the first number in a subtraction problem) has many zeros, forcing us to regroup (borrow) repeatedly. ☺ The new math program is stretching our thinking through multi-step word problems that are actually quite interesting in many cases. We reason through the problems, using our words to detail what the numbers in the problems truly represent.

Our new math program promises to be wonderful… this beginning stage can feel difficult as parents, students and as teachers. The kids look to us for guidance and we are here to support them as we navigate the new curriculum. Please click on this link for more information about the enVision math program:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0ByD1AsXy_zIwam85QkNvSDdaUUE/view>

Reading/Literacy/Writing:

We finished Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing and have moved onto our American Revolution novels. The kids were so excited to begin these books! They will participate in Literature Circles with “jobs” to keep their talk going within groups. The goal is rich conversation to engage and enlighten fourth grade minds. It feels good to tie our reading to the History we’ve learned about for the past week.

Core:

It’s all about the American Revolution! We are creating and writing our way through digital lapbooks, as we learn about the French and Indian War, the Proclamation of 1763, the Boston Massacre, Sam Adam’s role in resisting the Stamp Act, and the Boston Tea Party. We are summarizing events, writing letters, and analyzing viewpoints. The history is so interesting, and these kids are showing deep thinking.

Science:

Fourth graders have started their second science topic with a new fourth grade teacher. This is fun for all of us! ☺ The first half of the year students will learn about these science units: Magnetism and Electricity, Meteorology, Chemistry I and II, and The Scientific Meth