



Free Publication

Sixth Grade Scoop

Barry School, Cortland, NY

Current Topics

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Math

We are wrapping up our **Fractions** Unit.

- Adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions
- Simplifying Fractions
- Converting improper fractions and mixed numbers
- **Fraction Test on Thursday December 10th.**

Next Up: **Pre-Algebra**



Please continue practicing your multiplication facts. For fun games check out:

www.multiplication.com

Science

We are very 'attracted' to our **Electromagnetism** unit!

- Weekly labs: We've made an **electromagnet** and **compass** so far!
- Lab next week: '**Building Your Own Buzzer**'
- Review vocabulary and concepts
- **Unit test the week of Dec 14-18**



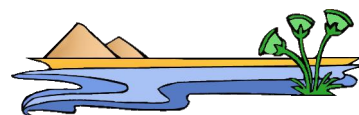
Important Dates

12/7	Holiday Book Drive ends
12/14	Geography Bee information session (6PM at CJSHS)
12/15	Ancient Egypt unit projects are due
12/18	Canned Food Drive ends
12/24-1/1	NO SCHOOL — December Recess

Social Studies

- Ancient Egyptian life
- Ancient Egyptian writing (hieroglyphics)
- How and why mummies were made
- How and why the pyramids were built
- The Great Pyramid and Sphinx
- Famous Egyptians

*****Ancient Egypt unit projects are due Tuesday, December 15th*****



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Reading and Writing News



Miss Podsiedlik

We have been working on **writing** essays. This is a long process, but the students are working hard and making HUGE improvements. We will continue to focus on the writing process with many different activities during the next few weeks.

In our **Reader's Notebooks**, we continue to write letters WEEKLY about our independent reading books. Next week our letter will focus on what we would change about our book and why. Please continue encouraging them to read for at least 20 minutes at day at home.

We began working on our **Character Suitcase** projects this week. They are due Monday December 14th. A list of the 10 items being packed is due Monday December 7th.

We are looking forward to a visit from **Mrs. Snyder** next Friday and are eager to get to know her better.

Congratulations to **Justin** on his C.A.R.E.S. award, and to **Maria, Matt, and Greg** for a great job at the Barry Spelling Bee.

Mrs. Sidebottom

In **Reading Workshop**, we continue to write letters WEEKLY about our independent reading books.

We enjoyed some **Time For Kids** articles, especially the story about the schools on boats in Bangladesh. The class wrote some very persuasive letters about funding the program. We are reading as a class the novel **Bridge to Terabithia**. This is a terrific Newbery award winning novel about friendship and loss. We are working on comprehension questions, friendship activities and comparing/contrasting the book to the movie. Continue reading at home!!

We look forward to a **visit from Mrs. Rhyde** next week and we are writing letters to introduce ourselves to her. We have listed ten things about ourselves (like in Winn Dixie!) and we will share these interesting facts with her, as well as be prepared with questions for her.

CONGRATS to Justin and Jonathon on a terrific job at the Spelling Bee!!! We are proud!

Mr. Caravella

In **Reading Workshop**, we focused on identifying character traits demonstrated by characters. Students used their Reader's Notebooks to write letters about a word that described a character in their book and supported their choice with examples and details from the book. In guided reading, some students finished reading The School Story, by Andrew Clements, while others completed Bridge to Terabithia, by Katherine Paterson. Another group of students is writing their own Catwings story after completing several books in the Catwings series by Ursula Le Guin.

In **Writing Workshop**, students completed a writing assignment similar to they test-type writing they will see on their NYS ELA exams this spring. Students were asked to select a theme that matched a passage from the book When Marian Sang, by Pam Munoz Ryan, and support their choice with details from the passage. Students also continued to use their Writer's Notebook to write about their lives. They will soon be choosing one or two of their "seed" entries to develop into a personal narrative.

Announcements

Give the Gift of Family Reading

The Gift of Family Reading book drive is ending soon! We will be collecting books up through Monday, December 7th. Our goal is to collect 100 NEW books from the Barry School Family. If you are out shopping, please consider picking up an extra book to help us give the gift of Reading!

Food Drive Fun

We are collecting non-perishable goods to help restock food pantries during the holidays. We will be collecting until Friday, December 18th.

Barry Spelling Bee

On December 1st, the following 9 students competed in the Barry School spelling bee:

Russell Gerhard	Matt Decker	Justin Adamczak
Coleton Reisman	Maria Kostiv	Jonathon Chierchio
Caitlyn Ruggiero	Greg Simpson	Julia Marshall

After a very tightly contested competition, Jonathon Chierchio finished in first place, followed very closely by Justin Adamczak. Jonathon will now go to the Kaufman Center on December 10th to compete in our district spelling bee.

