

Botelle Elementary School

5th Grade Newsletter

October

October Accomplishments

- Even though we're not holding our annual Veterans Day Assembly in a few weeks with guests in attendance, we are excited to be able to honor the veterans living in town and in our families. After writing a letter explaining our precaution and disappointment in having to hold the event without guests, students spent time this past week signing all 150 letters.

- This month, Mrs. Valentino read the book *Just Ask*, to 5th and 6th graders. This book was written by Sonia Sotomayor and illustrated by Rafael Lopez, both of which have Hispanic heritage, in honor of Hispanic Heritage month. We learned about where they came from, their interests as children and their accomplishments as adults. The book *Just Ask* is about children with differences and disabilities, which connects to Disabilities Awareness month. Children learned about differences like blindness, ADHD, dyslexia and Down syndrome. Students learned a little bit about these differences and how the children in the book manage them. We discussed what the author wanted us to learn and student easily recognized a variety of themes from, "Don't judge others before you know them," to "Our differences make us special."

- In reading, students wrote their first two reading responses. Our reading responses are an important communication tool when it comes to discussing our reading. Students have the opportunity to expand upon the thinking post-its that they're writing as they read, with evidence from the book as support. As the year progresses, we will continue to enhance and strengthen this reading, writing and communication skill.

On the Horizon

Math: During the month of November, 5th graders will be taking their first two assessments of the year. We'll be finishing up our learning of volume during W.I.N Time, and our lessons on representing division expressions as fractions and multiplying whole numbers by fractions.

Social Studies: To wrap up our unit on the New World, students gave presentation on one of the four people from the Jamestown Colony they researched as a team: Captain John Smith, Chief Powhatan, Pocahontas and John Rolfe.

Students also went on a gallery walk to see the infographics their classmates created on the mystery of the Roanoke Colony. Infographics included an overview of the event, a claim about their chosen theory, evidence to support their claim, and the sources used during our week of research. Check out Class DoJo to see our bulletin board!

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Important Dates

- 11/2: No school (Election Day/Teacher In-Service)
- 11/12: Celebration of Veterans Day
- 11/19: 1st Marking Period Progress Reports sent home
- 11/22: Early dismissal (12 PM)
Parent Teacher Conferences (Evening)
- 11/23: Early dismissal (12 PM)
Parent Teacher Conferences (Afternoon)
- 11/24-26: No school (Thanksgiving Break)



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October was Fire Safety month!



On the Horizon Cont.

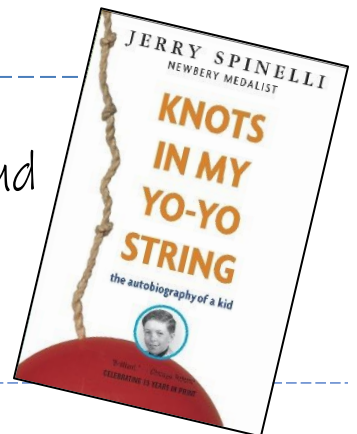
Reading: In November, our reading will transition into a character study. But first, students are working on wrapping up our unit on growing our reading lives with good reading habits by creating a book trailer of one of their favorite books using iMovie.

Writing: Our memoirs are beginning to wrap up! Students will show off their writing skills and all they've learned by recording a read aloud version of their memoir. We'll share them with classmates and you at home during a writing celebration soon.

Spelling: Spelling practice and home assignments are coming soon! We will be using the online version of the Words Their Way program this year. The Words Their Way curriculum separates students into groups based on their needs as spellers. A weekly assignment will include a spelling sort and activity that focuses on a specific spelling pattern after a mini-lesson about that pattern.

Current Read Aloud

Knots in my Yo-Yo String
by Jerry Spinelli



Supporting Your Child at Home

- ▶ Have your child read their book aloud to you every once in a while for fluency practice