***Mrs. Potter's Homeroom News***

*September 11, 20117*

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| **Reading News**  During the first week of school, students have been choosing AR reading books based on their Reading level from third grade. (If this is your child’s first year at Sam Adams, I will be using the fall STAR & DRA test score to find the correct reading level.) New assessments will be given to all students during the months of September and October.  All students are expected to take an AR (Accelerated Reader) quiz on the computer for books read. For the month of September, students are expected to earn a minimum of four (4) points. The points needed are low this month due to the late start of the school year and time spent out of class at swimming lessons. AR reading is used in part of your child’s overall reading grade for the marking period. Students are allowed to check out books from the classroom and the school library to read at home. Books must be at their independent reading level or no credit will be given toward the monthly reading goal. |

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| **Spelling News**  We have taken the beginning of year Words Their Way Assessment. Based on the assessment, your child will be placed in a Spelling Group. A list of words will be copied in your child’s agenda at the end of each week, and a spelling test will be given the following Friday. Our first Spelling test will be this Friday, 9/15/17. Please note, all students will be studying four weeks of homophones before being placed in a group. Students should be studying for tests at home during the week. |

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| **Writing News**  Students have begun their journal writing. Our first unit of study is Narrative / Realistic Fiction stories. Strategies for writing effective narrative stories include developing a character, using a story mountain for plot, creating dialogue, and using strong emotions. |

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| **Science News**  Mr. Staulter teaches Science to all of fourth grade. Please contact him is you have questions in this subject area. |

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| **Social Studies News**  Mrs. Gustafson teaches Social Studies to all of fourth grade. Please contact her if you have questions in this subject area. |

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| **Math News**  Please see the back of the newsletter for math news. |



**Mrs. Potter’s Math News**

September 11, 2017

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Our first module of study in math is “Fraction Equivalence, Ordering, and Operations.” In addition to this module, students will be working on mastering their basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts (mastery is 40 problems in two minutes on the computer using Math Facts in a Flash). We also will be reviewing multiple digit addition, subtraction, place value, and word problems from 2nd/3rd grade. My website (please see above) has several links to educations sites for students to practice math skills online. There is also listed at least one link for the subjects areas of Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies.

Students will have math homework most Tuesdays and Thursdays each week after we finish Swim Camp. The first Math homework will be sent home on Tuesday, 9/26/17. Homework is due back the next day. Students will receive 10 points off the first day late, 20 points off the second day late, and 30 points off the third day late. Assignments will not be accepted after the third day (except for absences – please see student handbook).

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.