

FRIDGE FACTS

The Room 205 Newsletter Edition #1
Mrs. Wilhelmy's Class
August 27 – August 31, 2012

What is going on in:

Reading? In reading this year we will travel from one continent to the next learning about cultures of the world through literature. We will be practicing our reading and writing skills along the way. First, we read as many folk tales, fairy tales, legends, and poems as we can find set in the continent. Next, we will read a novel that is set in or written by a native of the continent. We will finish the unit with a Language Activity Packet (LAP) where we will practice skills. We will be celebrating the differences and similarities of the cultures throughout our study as well.

Our first stop on our trip around the world is **Europe**. We will be reading the novel, *The BFG*, written by **Roald Dahl**. I encourage students to respond to vocabulary and concepts of a story as we read so we often write in our books as we go along. While it is not a requirement, I encourage each student to have a paperback copy of the book we are reading so that they may interact with the text directly. *The BFG* should be easy to find in local book stores like Books-A-Million. If you have trouble finding a copy, please let me know and I can look around for you. We will be starting the novel around the week of September 10th.

Math? We are working on **Unit one** this week. Our topics will include: introduction of the student reference book (text), tools for mathematics, and analyzing and displaying data. Most weeks students will have a Homelink page to do each night except Friday nights. Some assignments are quick and others will take a little longer. If you find that your child is struggling and working beyond 15- 20 minutes or so, stop them and write me a note. I will go over the material again with your child in class the next day. No need for tears at home!

Science? Our first unit will be **scientific inquiry, science safety rules, science tools, and terms**. Your child will be taking notes in a notebook and using a textbook as well as hands-on activities to learn this information. We'll keep you posted on what is happening each week.

Social Studies? Our first unit in social studies is **Maps and Geography**. Again, we will be keeping a notebook for this subject that will be an excellent resource when it comes time to study.

Foundations? We started our Orientation Unit this week. Please see the attached note about how we will organize Foundations this year as it may be different from your child's experience last year.

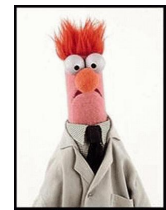
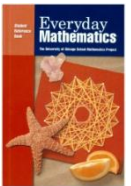
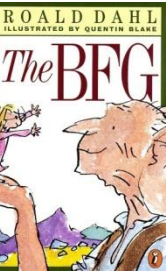
Unit: Unit One, week one

- ❖ **Concept:** Closed Syllable (one vowel closed in by a consonant makes the vowel short. Ex. Up, box, fit, den, rat)
Trigraph = three letters that make one sound (tch as in catch)
Digraph = two letters that make one sound (ch as in chin)
Blend = two or more letters grouped to make more than one sound (bl as in blend)
- ❖ **Words of the week:** **crunch and stretch**
- ❖ **Trick words:** **again and when**
- ❖ **Sound-Alikes:** **know/no, right/write**
- ❖ **Cursive letters:** lower case **e and h**.



Other important information?

- ❖ Please return any **volunteer forms** so I may put together schedules. If you need another copy, please email me or put a note in your child's planbook. A guest reader request (with dates) will be sent home soon. Please think about coming to read to us! We love visitors!
- ❖ **Applications** for financial advisors, insurance agents, and public relations specialists are due on Tuesday, September 4th. These will be available on Monday the 27th.



Congratulations, Bill and Sam on designing our 2012-2013 Bonus Coupons!

- ❖ Does your family have a strong connection to a **European country**? Would you like to share your heritage with us? Let me know and we can schedule a time for you to come visit!
- ❖ Reminder: Opportunities to earn BCs are optional and have no due date. They are just a chance to go beyond what is expected and earn Bonus Coupons. They in no way effect grades but can be fun! Check out our web page for forms and information about Business Time. There is even a video to watch!
- ❖ Thank you for signing your child's **planbook** each night! It makes communication so much easier.
- ❖ **Alert!** I will expect the kids to write their first and last names on all of their papers in cursive. This will be difficult at first but, with practice, they will get very good at it. Please be patient with us as our new calligraphers practice this skill.



Important Dates?

Sept 3 No school – Labor Day
 Sept 10 Bike Safety assembly for third grade
 Sept 7 Ice Cream Social
 Sept 11 Fun lunch for those who participate
 Sept 13 Picture Day
 Sept 16 Patriot Day
 Sept 18 Pizza Day for those who participate
 Sept 22 PTA Pumpkin sale

Our special class schedule:

- ✓ Monday = music with Mrs.)
- ✓ Tuesday = computers with Mr. Pfall
- ✓ Wednesday = art with Mrs. Braddock
- ✓ Thursday = book exchange with Mrs. Cipriani
- ✓ Friday = fitness with Mr. Shreve

Mrs. Wilhelmy's email = wilhelmy.amy@rcs.org

Rocky River's web site = www.rcs.org click on *Kensington, teacher web pages*, and then *Mrs. Wilhelmy* to view our class's page.

Ask your child about why watching the path Hurricane Isaac is important to our classroom!



Did you know your child can earn BCs by cleaning his or her room?!

