The focus for 2nd quarter is reading fiction and writing a personal narrative. Currently, we are researching the decade of the 1930’s and The Great Depression. We are going to be reading the book, *A Long Way From Chicago* by: Richard Peck. The story is written in chapters that are labeled as specific years during this time. Each year, or chapter, is a short personal narrative of a young boy who visits his grandma—a long way from Chicago. The students will be creating a timeline to give them some background knowledge of this time period. We are researching at school and will be using the Timeliner computer program at school to create it. This is occurring during the week of 11/12-11/20. If students are absent and miss some computer time, they can create it on a piece of paper that I will provide. They were given directions for the project.

During and after reading the book, we will be discussing the characteristics of a personal narrative. This includes: first person writing, dialogue, and sensory words. They will be writing a personal narrative during the last part of 2nd quarter.

The at home reading assignment is a little different this quarter. The students should be reading minimum of 20 minutes 4 times a week. They are to write a one-sentence summary of their reading for each session. Please discuss the reading with your child and sign off on the paper. The students know their lexile scores and should be choosing books in their range. If they need to know what lexile their book is at, I can assist them with that.

I will be sending home progress reports with your child every two weeks in the Tuesday take-home folder. Please check this but also check Zangle between these reports.
In Science students are finishing rocks and minerals. Next the students will be studying volcanoes. There will be a project in which the students will create a volcano and recreate a volcanic eruption in class. I remember last year, one volcanic eruption hit the ceiling! More information will be given to the students, once the class is done with rocks and minerals.

**SIXTH GRADE BEHAVIOR**

Last week the sixth grade teachers and administration met to come up with a plan for behavior that gets in the way of student learning. We keep a clipboard that travels with every class. If the student is not following the five expectations of the school, we give a tally by their name. At the end of the week on Friday, we will be handing out detention slips to students that had 4 or more tallies. The detentions will be served on the following Monday.

**SUPPLIES**

We are having a couple of issues with supplies and we are hoping that you could help. The main supplies missing are paper, pencils and sharpeners. I started at the beginning of the year where I would provide paper, pencils, and sharpeners for those that didn’t have any or forgot it in their lockers. This saves time for the student. Here’s what happened. The students would use my paper for math and their paper for drawing and paper folding. Then my pencils were never returned, and my 7 handheld sharpeners were stolen and we went through two electric sharpeners. All of this does cost money and it adds up fast. I pay the same price that parents pay for supplies. I’ve already gone over my personal budget that I spend each year on supplies. It is for this reason that we beg of you, to ask your child if they need any supplies or a handheld sharpener. You can get 6 hand held sharpeners for a dollar at the dollar store. Pencils and paper are inexpensive there, too! Any help and support with this is greatly appreciated!
SCHULTZ’S MATH NEWS

We are staying busy in math class! This Thursday we will be taking our decimal test. We then move on to the dreaded fractions in Chapter 4. We then finish Chapter 5 before the end of the second quarter.

Many students are missing work. Fifty percent of the missing work is from not showing work. I really need to see work when the student adds, subtracts, multiplies or divides. So if I didn’t see the work, I didn’t give credit. The student is expected to redo the assignment.

PTO NEWS

The SCRIP program is a fundraiser for the school. SCRIP program allows families to purchase gift certificates or cards at school. These certificates are just like cash. It would be the same as if you walked into Target and purchased a gift card.

Lincoln school then gets a percentage of money of the sold SCRIPS. Forms are going out in Tuesday folder 11/17/09. The orders will be due 12/2/09.

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We appreciate all of your support!
Sincerely,
The Explorers