

## **Classroom News**

Our surprise scientists Dr. Jeremy Pesicek and Dr. Heather Wright from the Volcanic Disaster Assistance Program came on Tuesday to share their experiences working as volcanologists. We conducted a few experiments using 7-up and candy to explain the properties of volcanoes. I was impressed at how the students were able to make accurate hypothesizes and answer difficult questions about volcanoes. We had a great time understanding in more detail the Cascadia range and the impact the geosphere has on the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere.

Our discussion of Lent was a special time for us to reflect upon the Paschal Mystery and choose something to give up or let go. We all chose one thing to focus on during this lenten season. Please talk to your child about what they chose to give up or let go. I sent home their ideas on Wednesday and I really enjoyed reading how some students were going to let go of fighting with their siblings or give up certain food items. As a class we will be hosting POW on Wednesday, March 22nd to share with the whole school the purpose and meaning of Lent. I appreciate you having these deeper conversations at home and reaffirming their commitment during this time.

Volunteers are needed for our Apple Field Trip! We will be going to the Apple Store on Wednesday, April 19th from 12: 40 p.m. to 3:05 p.m. Please log onto Volgistics and sign up to be a chaperone for our class. We will be leaving Cathedral again on March 8th to the Philharmonic Concert.

## **Curriculum Focus for Next Week**

### **Religion**

Next week we start preparing for our POW assembly and starting chapter 10.

### **Reading**

Next week we will be completing our non-fiction text study. Students will be writing opinionated editorials to summarize their understanding from this unit. They will be writing about off-shore drilling in the United States.

### **Writing**

Next week students will put their finished historical writing into book creator. They will be adding pictures to enhance their descriptive paragraphs. Finally, they will publish in i-books and have an opportunity to read each other's work and learn how students used correct quotations in their writing.

### **Math**

We will continue to study fractions. Students will find the least common denominator and be able to add fractions with unlike denominators.

### **Science/Social Studies**

We will conclude our science unit and start Social Studies Chapter 5.

### **School News**

It's the time of year to begin thinking of how 5th grade students can support our first grade buddy's service project. For their service project the first graders need assistance assembling Easter baskets to donate to Cares NW. Cares NW is a medical program that serves children who have been abused.

We are in need of the following materials for the first grade service project.

As you are out and about, please consider stocking up on the following:

- Stuffed Easter toys, rabbits, ducks, etc. (These toys are the most needed item!)
- Jelly beans and other Easter candy (Please make sure they are individually wrapped or in small, sealed bags.)
- A large assortment of stickers, pencils, novelty toys (bubbles, play doh, little games)

Please place your family's contributions in the bin in our classroom by April 7. The 5th graders and their buddies will assemble the baskets on April 11<sup>th</sup>. If you're available the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup>, we're in need of parent volunteers to help with this endeavor. Please check Volgistics if this is something you are interested in.

We will also be collecting 1 – 1.5 yards of fleece fabric or money donations for the first grade service project to make fleece "tie blanketets" (see how-to link below). If you would like to help make/tie the blankets for this project please sign up via Volgistics. We will be making blankets after school on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of April.

<https://snapguide.com/guides/make-a-no-sew-fleece-blanket-with-bulky-knots/>

### **Upcoming Events**

Philharmonic Concert, March 8th

Easter basket items collected by April 7th

Assemble Easter baskets morning of April 11th

Assemble/tie blankets after school on April 12th and 13th

Apple Store Field Trip, April 19th