

Hello Room 16 Families,

Tuesday, October 31 - Halloween- We will be celebrating Halloween with our annual parade at 8:30 which parents are welcome to attend. Then, we will be celebrating with a classroom party. Thanks to the Leo's mom, Rebecca for organizing a fun party for our students.

“As you and your child decide on a Halloween costume, please keep in mind that a costume needs to be comfortable and safe for walking. A child should not have his/her vision hampered in any way. In accordance with the CUSD's Zero Tolerance policy, students may not bring any toy weapons as part of their costumes. Plastic swords, toy guns, and other weapons are not allowed. Please help your child choose a costume that supports our efforts to promote a positive and enjoyable celebration.

Some basic guidelines to remember.

- Costumes may not have parts that interfere with learning or interfere with the ability of a student to go to the bathroom by themselves. This means no masks or costumes that restrict movement or vision, prevent sitting at desks, or prevent participation in physical education class. Costumes must not obstruct movement inside and outside of the classrooms.
- Costumes may not promote violence or have accessories or props that could be used as a weapon.
- Masks or full face painting are not permitted. Students can have “limited” makeup.
- Costumes must not be too scary or inappropriate for the school environment.
- For safety reasons, skateboards, rollerblades or roller skates may not be part of a costume.

Curriculum Update-

Reading: We continue to work on our reading stamina books. Also we focused on visualizing as we read. The first time I read “I Need My Monster”, I didn't show students the pictures. They had to choose the 6 main events and use their imaginations and the descriptive words to make their story maps. They did great! We have moved into our reading unit on Mystery Books and are learning how to be crime solvers.

Writing: This week students completed narrative writing pieces. They celebrated their hard work by sharing their writing with each other and giving peers compliments.

Next week, we will learn about the elements of opinion writing and coming up with reasons and evidence for pre-chosen opinions. I asked students to bring in a collection from home such as-beanie babies, baseball cards, keychains, anything that is small enough to fit in a paper brown lunch bag. Students will be evaluating and giving “nominations” for their collection, so they can learn about having criteria and strong evidence to support their opinions. Students need to bring in their **collection** next **Monday, October 30th.**

Math: We have moved into Multiplication and understanding what factors mean, which is critical to building an understanding of multiplication. Students will continue learning how to multiply with the factors 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Social Studies: We had a visit from a guest speaker, Keith Gutierrez, he explained how the Ohlone tribe used the natural resources in the Bay Area to live. The kids were excited to wear some of the traditional dress that the Ohlone would wear which represented a person's class and heritage. In addition, the class participated in Ohlone games, learned how to drill a hole, and how to use rocks to make face paint. I think most of the kids can agree that learning how to make fire (handled only by the grown-ups) was their favorite part.

We also wrapped up our unit on Geography of the World. Students were asked to locate key geographic features on a map of Earth: the equator, the prime meridian, the four hemispheres, the four oceans, and the seven continents. Also they were asked to identify countries on a map of North America.

Another project, "What's in My Name" was sent home yesterday. Students are to interview a parent about their name.

Science: We started our Forces and Motion unit and made Hopper Poppers to demonstrate push and pull motions. In this unit, students will explore the effects of balanced and unbalanced forces, the pushes and pulls of bridge structures, and the effects of gravity and friction on the motion of objects.