



3/4 Unit Newsletter

April 2019

What We're Studying

FORWARD TESTING

We will be completing the state Forward Exam during the month of April. See the dates and times at the bottom.

PLEASE do your best not to schedule appointments or absences during our testing windows. Students and adults may not enter classrooms when testing is underway.

You can help your child be successful by making sure they get a full night of sleep before testing sessions, as well as eat breakfast in the morning (either at home or school).

These tests are important, but we know there are so many more facets of our students than their test could ever show. This is not something to stress over, but instead it's another chance to do our best work!

READING & WRITING: Third and fourth grade readers and writers are preparing for the Forward exam by using practice tests and focusing on reading comprehension. We have been answering questions based on what we're reading and trying to write deeper reflections about our texts. We look forward to Historical Fiction book clubs starting up at the end of the month.

MATH: *Third graders* are developing more precise ways to identify, describe, and classify 2-D shapes. We will be learning about polygons and quadrilaterals, as well as finding perimeter of our shapes.

Fourth graders are focusing on understanding the many strategies we can use to solve 2- and 3- digit multiplication and division problems. We will learn the standard algorithm for multiplication and division of larger numbers, but only after understanding other ways that those problems can be solved.

CONTENT: This month we are wondering: how do laws and other decisions get made in our local, state, and federal governments? Students have learned about how ideas can become bills and laws in their classrooms. Next we will be learning about the three branches of government, as well as the checks and balances in place for each branch. **We are heading to Madison on May 1st** so that we can learn more about government at the state level!

Forward Testing times (All tests are scheduled 8:30-10:00)

4/2, 4/3, 4/4, 4/5: 4th grade Science and Social Studies

4/11 and 4/12: 3rd and 4th grade Math

4/23, 4/24, and 4/25: 3rd and 4th grade English/Language Arts