**This Week in Grade 4 McConaghy Monday, October 29 – Friday, November 02, 2018**

**Happy Halloween!**

It was wonderful to see so many Barker’s Point families enjoying Family Fun Night! The costumes were great! One of my students fooled me. I did not recognize her! Family Fun Night is one of Home and School major fund raisers. The money that is raised is invested directly back into the school. By the number of families attending it is safe to say it was a HUGE success! A BIG thank you to all those who organized, set up, cleaned up and worked during the evening.

**Halloween**

This week the theme of our learning will be Halloween. We will continue to learn using various Halloween activities. We will not have a Halloween Party in the traditional way. There will not be a Halloween Party with treats unless Healthy Treats are sent in. You are more than welcome to send in a veggie tray or fruit tray, crackers and cheese. We will certainly share healthy items on Wednesday morning.

Just a reminder that students are not to wear costumes to school on Wednesday. This includes masks. Students are also not permitted to wear masks on the playground. It makes it very difficult for staff to identify students and often scares the little ones. However, students are encouraged to wear orange, black, or white.

I have a treat bag to send home with students on Wednesday. This treat bag will not contain any candy or food that do not fall under the Healthy Food guidelines. Please ensure that your child does not arrive at school with a lunchbox filled with Halloween Candy! A couple of treats are ok. It is very difficult to learn/ be at your best when on a sugar high.

Wishing everyone a safe and fun filled Halloween!

**Pumpkin Carving Contest**

Students of BPS will cast their votes for the Teacher's Pumpkin Contest on Monday for the chance to win the pumpkin they like the most.

Barkers Point Elementary Teachers will be carving/painting pumpkins and bring them in on Monday.  They will be set up in the foyer.  We put brown paper bags beside them for the students to drop their ballots in.  Students who have money to vote (50 cents per vote or 3 for $1) fill in the ballots in the classroom (name and class) and bring them down the foyer.  They drop their ballots into the bag of the pumpkin they'd like to win.  We will draw names Wednesday at recess and depending on the size of the pumpkin either the students take it home or we call for it to be picked up.

This is always so much fun for the students. The money raised will by split with half going to a local charity and the other half put towards the general activities for the students here at Barkers Point Elementary. We have a friendly competition between teachers.  The winning pumpkin (most votes) may win something....

**Literacy**

We start each morning with a Grammar Warm Up. This activity encompasses what we have learned in Grammar; punctuation, upper case letters, proper nouns, spelling corrections, beginning a sentence with an upper case letter, synonyms, antonyms, word meanings using context clues and syllables. This daily activity serves as a reminder of what we have learned and the opportunity to keep practicing what we have learned. It is a wonderful way to settle into the day.

We will continue to learn about and make **Inferences**. Students will write about their Halloween Costumes without stating what their costume is. The remainder of the class will have to make **Inferences** based on the clues they are provided with. Students will also solve Halloween Riddles by making Inferences.

Next, a new grammar concept is introduced or reinforced/ practiced. This week we will be learning about **Personification and Idioms**. Both concepts will be introduced/taught with a Halloween Theme.

**Writing**

We will continue to learn about and practice including strong word choices in our writing. This week our theme will be **Wicked Word Choice.**

Writing an interesting conclusion to our pieces of writing will be taught and practiced.

On Wednesday, students will take part in a Halloween Roll and Write activity. Using what they roll they will write a fiction piece of writing

The Thursday following Halloween, we will write about **The Day After Halloween.**

**Math**

We will continue to practice rounding and place value. This week we will practice daily the 1 – 6 Times Tables. This will practiced by doing Minute Math. This will show who has been working on mastering the 1-6 Times Tables. Master the 1-6 Times Tables was part of nightly homework for several weeks.

Students will now be assigned Multiplication Tables from 7 – 10. This will be nightly homework for the next couple of weeks. Students will not be able to meet with success when we move on to multiplication if they do not know their Times Tables.

**Science**

A new unit in Science will be introduced. We will start our Rocks and Minerals Unit.

STEAM,(STEM), activities will be canters around Halloween. This week students will experiment with using various items to try to make The Witch’s Potion Bubble.

**Social Studies**

Last week, students were introduced to the Text we will be using in Social Studies, Exploration.

As an integrated learning topic we will be learning about The Titanic.

**Health**

On Tuesday, students will meet with their colour team to do learn about Gratitude. Students are asked to wear their Barkers Point Team Colour Shirt. If your child does not have a Team Color Shirt they are encouraged to wear a shirt that is the same colour as their Team Color.

I am going to be out from Tuesday to Friday of this week. Ms. Brittany Everett will be my replacement. Please feel free to send me emails if you have any concerns. I check my emails daily. If you need to contact MS. Brittany please leave a message at the office.

Have a safe week!

Stay in touch