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**Spring Break**

**Time**

Please take time this spring break to enjoy special time with your child.

Spending time reading to each other, writing to relatives, sitting outside and writing poetry about what is heard or seen, taking walks, and visiting the library, are all free ways to spend quality time that will enrich their minds at the same time.

Don’t forget that the March reading calendars will be due when we return.

**Have a fabulous Spring Break!**

**What’s going on in our class:**

This past week, students have been working on finishing their myths and their solar system research project.

In Math we are starting Unit 6, which will focus on multiplication, division, and taking our knowledge of fractions to the next level.

We also have been practicing test-taking strategies to help relieve stress when the questions are confusing or a problem is difficult to figure out. Again, my focus is giving students the tools to avoid stress during assessments.

**Important Dates:**

**3/21-3/25 Spring Break:** No school

**4/4 No school:** Professional Development for teachers

**4/5-4/8 PARRC:** Please schedule all appointments at a different time than this week, as I find that students who miss assessments and have to make them up are far more stressed than ones who are able to take the assessments with peers.

**Please notice we will have our last assessment on Friday, 4/8 in the morning even though it is an early release day.**

***PARRC***

Our assessment days are April 5th -8th. The class will take a Reading assessment each morning and a Math assessment each afternoon. Friday will be the exception with the last Math assessment being taken in the morning.

Throughout the year we have been working on stress relieving strategies to calm nerves before assessments. I tell the students that I want them to do the best they can on all assessments, to give me the best information about what they have learned so I can be the best teacher for them. My hope is that they realize that they are not a number to me, but someone I care about and want to be the best I can be for them.

I will start each day with a positive activity and expect there to be no homework the week of PARRC.

**4th Grade News**

**March 18,2016**

March