

Mr. Semmes Classroom notes September 2011

Dear parents,

The classroom is active! The year started off with the older students presenting their Great Stories to the parents. They have been working on their United Nations facts, learning about Jamestown in preparation for their Williamsburg trip, planning their Science Fair experiments, remembering the parts of a sentence, reviewing squaring and cubing, writing poetry, and giving lessons! The fourth and fifth grade girls did some community service by pulling up invasive weeds in the Shenandoah National Park.

The younger students have been hard at work on their hand writing, learning about the categories and families of our decimal system, listening to stories, painting leaf shapes, creating congruent, similar, and equivalent shapes, mulling over concrete and abstract nouns and making booklets. Everyone in the class has been taking Spanish and reading, reading, reading in our new library corner.

We want to encourage everyone to come hear a guest speaker on Tuesday, October 11 from 7:30-9:00. The lecture will be on Executive Functioning. It should be fascinating. We also have a whole school parent education meeting the following Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. where we will give the presentation our school is giving at the national NAMTA conference in Columbia, MD.

Fifth and Sixth grade parents: please make sure your child is doing five lessons a week in their math-books. A few of them having only done a couple of lessons since the beginning of the year! You should be checking their answers and having them correct them. They are taking the tests at school. :)

I will be doing conferences on Sunday, October 23. Call the office to schedule.

Thank you for your enthusiastic support!

Deryn Semmes