

**MATH:**

-CHAPTER 3 Math Test-  
Whole # Multiplication &  
Division

**READING:**

-Reader's Workshop  
- Rosa Parks read aloud

**LANGUAGE ARTS :**

-Spelling lesson 8  
-Grammar, Usage, &  
Mechanics- *Different Kinds of  
Sentences*

-Writing prompt

**SOCIAL STUDIES:**

-Reflection of Galleon Games



**Dec. 4, 2015**

Ms. Giss & Mrs. Daftari's Inquisitive 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE!

MATH

PLEASE BE SURE TO VISIT  
OUR CLASS WEBSITE for  
current photos, important  
links and other info:  
[daftari-giss.weebly.com](http://daftari-giss.weebly.com)

Students were so excited to visit the Fall Book Fair this week! It will be up and running through December 9<sup>th</sup>, on weekdays from 8 am- 5 pm and Friday from 8 am- 2 pm. All proceeds go directly to purchasing materials for the library.

Introducing new books to our classroom library maintains the excitement and momentum around students' independent reading pursuits.

We thank you for all of your generous contributions!

This week we continued working in Chapter 3: *Whole Number Multiplication & Division*. We understand that the word problems in this chapter have been very challenging. Please know that your child is not alone in feeling this way. We discussed with students that these multi-step problems are a process and we are not expecting mastery at this point. We want them to put forth effort in breaking the problem down into steps and getting as far as they can. A good handful of students require our step-by-step guidance and support for these challenging problems. For this reason, we gave the math chapter "review" as the test and the usual "test" as the review. We want students to feel more successful after this long and involved chapter. The more challenging word problems that we assigned for homework are actually harder than the test questions. This time around, we want to score students on concepts that are closer to their reach.

**As a reminder, you can download and print extra practice or reteach pages for each chapter from our website.**

**Please remind your child to practice their multiplication facts for a minimum of three minutes per night in order to alleviate frustration in class due to the fact that they don't have a handle on their times tables. It can slow students down on their long division when they are looking for factors of a number. Thank you for your support at home!**



## UPCOMING TESTS/IMPORTANT DATES:

A hard copy of our December calendar was sent home on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. You can also find a copy of it on our class website.

Next week in math, we will be starting Chapter 6, *Fractions & Mixed Numbers*

No homework the week of Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> for Chanukah.

No school Friday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> and Monday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.

## READING

**During Reader's Workshop**, students enjoyed their classmate's Digital Book Talks on their I pads. They then used their brand new Maimonides email accounts for the very first time. They emailed one of their peers with a positive compliment regarding their booktalk. We focused on proper letter format for the email.

**Read Aloud:** In honor of Rosa Parks taking a stand 60 years ago on December 1<sup>st</sup>, we did a read aloud of a Caldecott Honor book, *Rosa* by Nikki Giovanni. Students had many insightful questions and comments.

**Independent reading:** Students are excited to reach their goal of reading 700 books as a class this year! **4B has read 310 books so far this year! 4A has read 374!** We are so proud of our voracious readers! In class, students continue to record titles (both from their raz-kids accounts and their own books) on their reading list in their reading response journals. Check out the new photos on our website.

## READING cont.

**We are so excited to start Guided Reading Groups next week! We have selected three classic novels that we hope students will love!**

## WRITING

Students had a choice of three different writing prompts to respond to in a free write. It's always fun to see how their personalities shine through in their writing. We enjoyed listening as they read their stories to their classmates.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

This week we wrapped our beloved Galleon Game. Winning teams were excited to receive certificates and it was a pleasure to see their classmates show their enthusiasm and support. We gathered in a circle to reflect on the unit. Students responded to the following questions: *What aspect of the game was most enjoyable? What aspect of the game did you find most challenging? What changes or additions to the game would you suggest for the teachers using this game in the future? What advantages do you think YOU brought to your team? What do you think you could work on to become a stronger "TEAM" player in the future? Name one bit of information or skill you learned from the unit?* Their responses were quite insightful.