

OCTOBER 2011

Room 209 had a fantastic start to the school year! We learned classroom rules and routines quickly and have been following them well. We have enjoyed getting to know each other and work fabulously in groups! Skills we worked on included identifying narrative elements in reading and reviewing place value in math. We also began switching classrooms for Science and Social Studies, which will be done every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon throughout the school year.

During the month of October we will be focused on reading and comprehending various informational texts. Skills that will be reinforced throughout the month are drawing conclusions, making inferences, using context clues, and identifying and explaining main ideas and details. Although many of the stories that we will be reading come from our Trophies books, the articles in Time for Kids magazine are also extremely interesting and helpful to our learning. If you have not already done so, please send in the \$4.50 that was paid for your child to participate in this amazing reading program.

In math, we will be focusing on multiplication, which means we need to start memorizing our times tables. Students will be required to take home their fact triangles nightly. Please encourage your child to practice reciting the times tables and even play along with him or her! Math is much easier to students who are able to recall times tables from their heads, rather than looking in a book or using a calculator.

Of course, October means fall celebrations and Halloween. We will be having a fall harvest celebration in the classroom on Oct. 31st. If you would like to do so, please feel free to send in a fall-themed treat to share. There are 27 of us in the room. More information about this celebration to come later in the month!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns!