

autumn's last leaf falls - the harvest now over - a chill fills the air  
in this home - warmth surrounds you - like a blanket at night  
memories shared - love shared - hopes shared  
a time to reflect - and a time to look ahead - to give thanks for all  
- Sven



Mrs. Nielsen's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade ☸ Songo Locks Elementary School ☸ 2012 – 2013

~~~~~ November Newsletter ~~~~~

## Why is Reading Outside of School, so Important to Our Children?

By Susan Lundeen

With everyone's busy schedule why it seems sometimes are teacher's sending home the busy work of having my child read out loud, to themselves or have the parent read to their child for fifteen to thirty minutes a day. *Does this time really make a difference in a child's education?* The answer is **a resounding yes**, these minutes are precious and once lost we cannot get them back. As shown in the following quote children who read outside of school read a phenomenal number of words each year. Students who do not read outside of school have no way of catching up. They need to read as much as possible, to be exposed to as many words as possible.

The following statistic struck me as so profound that I have to share this quote with you the reader.

### Reading Level Reading Time Outside of School Words Read Outside of School

90<sup>th</sup> percentile 21 minutes/day 1,823,000 words/year  
10<sup>th</sup> percentile 0.1 minutes/day 8,000 words/year  
Anderson, R, O, C., & Wilson Fielding, L. G.(1998).

The numbers are so dramatic in the difference it makes to a student's fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary. If children do not read at home they cannot make up for the loss of words per year. For this reason many teachers are now assigning reading homework nightly to ensure that students are reading at home and not just at school. **Understand that reading can take place in the car while waiting for practice to start. A child can read to you while you are cooking dinner.** *When reading is made a priority, there are many clever ways to make reading part of your daily schedule.*

In the world today where people are bombarded by words and reading is required for nearly every job, **students cannot afford to not learn to read.**

<http://voices.yahoo.com/reading-why-reading-outside-school-so-important-4175191.html>

## Veteran's Day Concert

Mrs. McVety, the music teacher, has organized a concert in honor of those who have served the United States of America in the Armed Forces. Please invite your friends, family and loved ones to join us for this special day.

Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>  
Third Grade at 10:15 am

**After the concert please join our class to create a handprint flag. We would also love to hear stories from those who have served.**

## November Calendar

|                  |                                              |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| November 7-8     | Conferences                                  |
| November 9       | Teacher Workshop                             |
| November 12      | Veteran's Day                                |
| November 13      | Concert – 10:15 am<br>Wear Red, White & Blue |
| November 21 – 23 | Thanksgiving Break                           |
| November 30      | End of Trimester 1                           |

