**SHARING**

 For sharing this week children should bring something that has the /sh/ sound in it. This sound can be anywhere in the word.

 Next week our focus will shift to the /ch/ sound. Again, that sound can be anywhere in the word.

**BOOK ORDERS**

 Book orders are due by Friday, 11/9.

**CONFERENCES**

 Thank you for attending conferences last week. I enjoyed speaking with you about your child’s growth and progress in school. If you ever have questions or concerns, please contact me immediately. If you were unable to attend last week, I’ll be contacting you early this week to reschedule.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

Younger students will be learning about our country’s symbols.

Older students begin to explore the concept of westward expansion in the United States.

**SPELLING**

First through fifth graders have spelling words attached. The homework remains the same each week. Here is the condensed explanation.

**Monday**: Cut, sort, explain

**Tuesday**: Sort and write

**Wednesday**: Adult reads, child writes in correct category, fix as needed

**Thursday**: Sort, glue, add two

We’ll test on the words in class on Friday.

**SWIMMING**

 We won’t be able to swim this week due to a lack of a male chaperone in the boys’ locker room. (Mr. Hinds has a meeting in Soldotna) We’ll have PE in the gym that day so students won’t need their swim gear.

**WRITING**

 This quarter our focus in language arts will shift to expository writing. In elementary school this is writing to explain, describe, or define something. This week the younger students will be describing their shoes and then their jackets. The older students will be working on a more elaborate project that is linked to their learning in social studies. They’ll be working together to create an alphabet book about the Civil War.

**HABITS OF MIND**

 As mentioned in most conferences, we are focusing on sixteen Habits of Mind this year. These strategies were named by adults from all walks of life as being employed when they had to solve problems. We’ve spent a bit of time focusing on each strategy and return to them often throughout our days together.

 Many parents mentioned they’d like to continue talking about the habits at home. I’ve attached a one-page paper that you might find helpful. Once again, thanks for your amazing support!