**SHARING**

For sharing this week children should bring an object that begins with the same sound as their last name.

We’ll use sharing to focus on short vowel sounds for the next several weeks. Next week children should bring an object with the short sound of /a/. This is the vowel sound heard in “map”.

**CONFERENCES**

Thanks to everyone for attending conferences last week. I enjoyed having the opportunity to discuss your child’s growth and progress so far this year. If you ever have any questions or concerns about your student’s education, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

**SPELLING**

We are back to our regular spelling routine this week. All students, except for kindergarteners, have spelling words attached. A brief explanation of the homework appears below.

**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.

**HEALTH**

In a couple of weeks in health we’ll be covering some sensitive topics as described below. Please feel free to stop by and look at the materials if you’d like.

Kindergarteners will be learning about safe and unsafe touches.

First, second, and fourth graders learn that their body is private and that they should say no to touches or actions that make them uncomfortable.

Faith will be learning about sexual harassment.

Third graders don’t have lessons on this topic, but they’ll be in the classroom as other grades discuss them.

**SWIMMING**

While we won’t be swimming yet this week, there has been progress in getting volunteers. We are waiting for the required volunteer background checks to be processed. We’d still appreciate a few more interested males doing this paperwork in case others are unable to help out on any given week.

**SNACK MONEY**

Thanks to those parents who sent in the $5 to cover their child’s snacks for the second quarter.

**BOOK ORDERS**

I’ve attached the most recent book order forms. It seems that we went right from Halloween books to Christmas! If you are ordering gifts that you don’t want your child to see, just let me know and I’ll get the books directly to you when they come in. As always, if you choose to pay by check, please make it payable to Scholastic rather than to me. All orders are due by Friday, November 10th.