**SHARING**

 Sharing this week is Children’s Choice.

 Next week sharing will be related to grandparents.

**NO SCHOOL**

 There won’t be school this Friday, April 20th. This is a vacation day.

**SWIMMING**

We’ll be swimming on Wednesday of this week. Please help your child remember to bring swim gear to school that day.

**HOMEWORK**

There is no spelling or math homework this week.

**INTERNET SAFETY**

 We’ll be concluding our lessons in internet safety this week.

**GEOGRAPHY**

 It’s time for students to learn their states and capitals! This information helps students with their daily geography in the classroom. It also gives them a great start in being able to form a mental image of our country when they hear current events. The requirements vary by grade level and are explained below. Students will be tested on this information on Friday, May 4th.

 Kindergarteners need to learn the names and location of five states. First graders need to learn fifteen states. Second graders will be expected to know 25 states. Third graders should know 35 states. Fourth graders should know all fifty states. Faith will need to locate and label all fifty states and also be able to name the capital of each state.

 Kindergarteners through third graders can choose which states to learn. Younger students may be more successful learning states that have personal meaning to them. For example, maybe choose a state they have visited or one in which grandparents live.

 I’m not going to expect students to spell the names perfectly. They need to be spelled so that I know what they had in mind when they were writing. I would like state names capitalized though.

 I’m sending home a blank map that may help in the studying process. I’ve also listed two links below. The first one works quite well for fun practice in learning the states. The second one will help Faith learn the capitals. [www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/usaquiz.html](http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/usaquiz.html)

<http://lizardpoint.com/geography/usa-caps-quiz.php>

**BOOK ORDERS**

 I’ve attached current book order forms. This will be our final book order of the year. Please turn in any orders by next Friday, April 27th. As always, make any checks payable to Scholastic rather than to me.