



# AAI Insider

## Crocker Elementary School AALI Newsletter

Happy Spring!

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Spring 2013

It is hard to believe we are now in the third and final quarter of the school year! The time has flown by once again. Your children will soon be moving on to a new grade or to a new adventure at the middle school. It has been an absolute pleasure working with your children in the AALI program this year. Please look at the Fitchburg Public Schools' web page and check out the new Honors Academy at Fitchburg High School. This will be a path we hope many of our advanced students participate in. Please read along and find out what is happening in the AALI program at your child's grade level and save the date for our upcoming AALI GALA event on May 9 which will be hosted here at Crocker Elementary School.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Students

The first grade students have spent the last few weeks preparing a group project for the upcoming Science Fair on April 23. Team A will have an exhibit on Insects and Team B will have an exhibit on Finger-

prints. We continue to improve and advance reading fluency and comprehension with non-fiction stories.

We will also be working on Math standards to improve our measurement, geometry, addition and subtraction skills. Remember to incorporate Math throughout your day at home!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Students

The second graders have also been working on projects for the Science Fair. Team A is working on a project with Balls and Ramps and Team B is experimenting with Magnets. I hope you and your child will be able to attend this event on April 23 to see all of Crocker's Science Projects. After the science fair the second grade students will continue to work on critical thinking and writing skills using informational text.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Students

Our third grade students have been introduced to

their second Word Master Challenge words. They have all been given a word list to share with their families at home. It is our goal to use rich, challenging vocabulary in our written and spoken language. The next challenge will take place the week of April 28th. We will also continue to meet for Literature Circles. The Math groups will continue to extend and apply our Math skills through problem solving and critical thinking.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

Our fourth grade students are also working on their third Word Master Challenge. We have shown wonderful growth in our challenge test scores from the first challenge to the second. I expect great results for our final challenge the week of April 28. A group of ELA students will be creating US Landmark projects for our Cultural Fair held in June, and the Math students will be extending their math skills by solving challenging multi-step problems.

### School Store

We have had a very successful few months at the new Crocker School Store thanks to a number of AALI Students who volunteer to help out on Tuesday mornings. A **BIG THANK YOU** to Sara, Deanna, Lindsey, Jaxon, Kayla, Olivia, Noah and Victor who have worked very hard to make this a successful community project!

### Coaches Corner

Puzzles, Word Cubes, and Word Games are just a few of the games children love to play. Card games are also fabulous to have children use "smart thinking" strategies. Contact me if you need ideas for family nights at home.

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