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|  | **Alta Vista Elementary Newsletter****English Language Arts**  | September 2016 |
| Volume 1 Issue 1 |
| **Kindergarten** | **1st Grade** |
| In reading our comprehension focus is to working on confirming understanding by asking and answering questions about key details. Students will also learn how to describe the relationship between text and illustrations. Our foundational focus is on specific letter sounds of Mm, Aa (short a, and i), Ss, Pp, and T. Students will also work on blending and segmenting onsets and rimes. In writing we are working on personal narratives as we write and draw about things we share with friends, about how animals move and tell about a park. In social studies we are connecting comparing families of today and the past as well as learning to demonstrate good citizenship.  | Our comprehension focus is on key details. Our foundational focus is on the letters /a/ (short), /i/ (short), /o/ short, l, r and s blends, as well as inflectional ending (s), double and final consonants, plural nouns with s, alphabetical order, and possessives. In writing, we are constructing simple and compound sentences. Additionally we are working with narrative text to describe settings, and characters. Students will also construct a narrative writing that demonstrates a beginning, middle and end along with supporting details. In social studies we are connecting history that tells the story of people and events of other times and places.  |
| **2nd Grade** | **3rd Grade** |
| Our comprehension focus is on key details, character, setting, and events. Our vocabulary focus is on inflectional endings, -s, -ed, -es, and –ing along with root words, and sentence clues. For phonics students are working on short /a/, /i/, /e/ and /o/ along with long /a/, /i/ and /i\_e/. Additional sounds of two letter blends of r, s, t, and l. In writing, students are learning the construct of a narrative-friendly letter with a focus on the body and closing. Students will also work on writing a personal narrative from drafting to publishing in which they will review sequencing events and using details along with temporal words to signal event order. Students will add a conclusion as well as learn to revise and edit their work using proofreading marks and scoring rubrics. In social studies students will focus on cultural influences and contributions, learn labels on a globe and understand that people make choices based on their access to available resources.  | Our comprehension focus is on characters, settings, events and reading for argumentation with main ideas and key details. The vocabulary will concentrate on context clues, sentence clues, synonyms, compound words, metaphors and multiple-meaning words. Additional support will come from text evidence, illustrations, and graphics along while comparing and contrasting information. In writing, students will develop informative essays based on the state scoring rubric. We will learn to understand prompts based on topics, and draft using organization, supported by evidence and elaboration. Students will learn to revise and edit their writing to complete the final stage of publishing. In social students we will explore actions that demonstrate civility, and cooperation of people. Understand the Constitution of the U.S. Recognize that buyers and sellers exchange goods. We will also learn basic map elements.  |
| **4th Grade** | **5th Grade** |
| Our comprehension focus is on characters, settings and events as well as text structure with main ideas and key details. For vocabulary we are concentrating on context clues, synonyms, idioms, multiple-meaning words, definitions, restatements, and suffixes. Additional support will be centered on evidence and inference through multiple presentations. . In writing, students will develop informative essays based on the state scoring rubric. We will learn to understand prompts based on topics, and draft using organization, supported by evidence and elaboration. Students will learn to revise and edit their writing to complete the final stage of publishing. In social studies we will summarize immigrant contributions to Florida, study Florida’s role in the national and international economy, and identify physical features and weather of our state. | Our focus in comprehension comparing and contrasting characters, settings, and events within themes and topics along with relationships or interactions within text based on evidence and inference. We will compare the structure of multiple texts and points of view on the same topic. Vocabulary will concentrate on context clues, idioms, homographs, Greek roots and Greek and Latin prefixes. In writing, students will develop informative essays based on the state scoring rubric. We will learn to understand prompts based on topics, and draft using organization, supported by evidence and elaboration. Students will learn to revise and edit their writing to complete the final stage of publishing. In social studies we will explore explorations west of the Mississippi River, how and why U.S government was created and the Declaration of Independence as well as good citizenship. Describe a market economy and also identify U.S. physical features on a map of North America. |