Dear Family Members,

Our class is about to begin a Writer’s Workshop unit on Research Reports. Research reports present factual information accurately and in an organized way. They may include graphic features such as maps and photographs. During this unit, we will read and analyze many published research reports, and your child will have the opportunity to brainstorm, draft, revise and edit, and publish his or her own research report.

This is always an exciting unit in which children use what they know about science and social studies to explore nonfiction topics that interest them. They also learn how writers research and organize reports. You may wish to spend some time talking with your child about topics of interest to him or her.

You can also ask your child questions to learn about his or her progress. For example:

• Have you brainstormed ideas yet? Would you like to share your ideas with me?
• What have you written so far?
• What part of writing do you enjoy most?
• What part of writing is difficult for you?
• Are there other topics that you would like to write a research report about?

Thanks in advance for supporting your child’s writing experiences. I look forward to sharing his or her work with you!

Sincerely,