

Thornton/Yelle Newsletter

9/16/16

The Reading Corner...

We have started the school year off to a great start! We have focused on pre-reading strategies by researching Kate DiCamillo, making predictions, and taking picture walks. We have started to read the book Because of Winn-Dixie in both classes. We are working on having rich discussions to build comprehension, and dive deeper into the text. We have also practiced identifying internal and external character traits in the story to help us with our character development when we write our own narrative stories.

Writers Workshop...

We are starting off the school year as authors. With this new job assignment comes hard work! We have been collecting writing advice from authors already and discussing great writing techniques. We have started discussing small moments and brainstorming lists of possible story starters for our fictional narrative stories. Students are motivated and enjoying writers' workshop.

In Math This Week...

Our little mathematicians have been working hard to review their place value skills and expand to numbers into the millions! Our new favorite game, place value paths, has got the students really thinking about numbers and strategies for ordering multi-digit whole numbers. We have pieced together our Marvelous Math Binders for this unit and the kiddos are excited to dive into note taking. Please keep an eye out for these binders to use a resource throughout the year.

Important Dates and Reminders

We have been working with all of our online math programs to get the students logged in and ready to start. By next week the kiddos should be able to access all these programs at home for homework.

Reading logs, Spelling Lists, and Important links can be found on the classroom webpages.

In Social Studies and Science This Week...

In Social Studies we have been talking about the regions of the United States. We have been focusing a lot on our states and capitals and reviewing our map skills. In Science we have been exploring magnets. The kiddos are excited to explore with magnets next week. Coming up, we will talk about electricity and explore with Snap Circuits.

Conversations Starters

1. What are some things we will find in your math binder this year?
2. What is something you learned about magnets this week?
3. What is the difference between an internal trait and an external trait?
4. Describe a character in the story *Because of Winn-Dixie*.