

# Thornton/Yelle Newsletter

12/1/16

## The Reading Corner...

This week we finished reading our classroom read aloud Tiger Rising. Students will be plotting the story on the story arc to make reading and writing connections. We are nearing the end of our interpreting characters unit. Our last lesson involves engaging students in a debate about the Tiger Rising book. After we ensure comprehension of the text, students will develop an idea about the characters actions and decide if they were agreeable or not. Students will support their ideas with three defensible reasons. Lastly, students will ground their reasoning with finding supporting evidence in the text.

## Writers Workshop...

Students have been working diligently! Every student is in the final stages of the writing process for their realistic fiction story. Each student has developed a story where their character faces a conflict in a realistic setting, the problem gets worse, as a result the character changes, and conclusively the character resolves their struggle and learns a life lesson. The students have learned how to develop a character and a plot, all while building writing skills and techniques. In addition, students are applying grammatical skills and spelling patterns they have learned. PHEW! Clever minds at work in fourth grade! We would love to share the reading and writing progress with you on Friday December 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:00 as a celebration of all that the students have learned during term one.

## In Math This Week...

The mathematicians have been working very hard this week! Your 4<sup>th</sup> grader has been practicing their factors and multiples. We have been creating beautiful factor rainbows and playing lots of math games to help us with our factors and multiples. Make sure the kiddos are practicing their math facts at home to help them with this skill! Next week we will start exploring solving word problems. We will be detectives searching for clue words of which operation we need to do. We are all looking forward to showing off our math skills next Friday!

### Important Dates and Reminders

*Friday 12/8/17 → Celebration of Knowledge from 1:00 – 2:00. Please go to your child's homeroom classroom. You will switch classes at 1:30 to see the learning that took place in the neighboring classroom at 1:30.*

- This upcoming week is a spelling week
- Please continue to help your 4<sup>th</sup> grader with their multiplication and division facts!

## In Social Studies and Science This Week...

In Social Studies we are getting comfortable in the Southeast Region as we work on taking notes and presenting information in small groups. We began to explore possible topics for our Southeast Scrapbook Project (just like the Northeast Region project). Students will pick their topics by Next Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> and bring home more project information on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup>!

### Conversations Starters

1. Ask your fourth grade about how to draw a factor rainbow for a number.
2. What landmarks are you interested in researching for the scrapbook project?
3. What was an exciting event that happened in Tiger Rising?
4. How are you making progress on your realistic fiction story?

