

Thornton/Yelle Newsletter

12/16/16

The Reading Corner...

We have begun our informational reading unit. Students are reading a biography book at their level and have started researching the text structures of informational books. Specifically, the table to contents, headings, subheadings, and other text features. Through their research, they have discovered how informational texts are organized. This is helping students to understand the important parts and organize their reading and notetaking for their own biography writing.

Writers Workshop...

We have also started our informational writing unit. Reading and Writing lessons are taught in unison. Students are learning reading strategies to help them comprehend informational books, while also analyzing the writing components of informational texts. The goal is for students to write a biography of their own, through the research informational texts, to gather factual information for their own books. This is very similar to their "All About" writing from last year. So far students have drafted a table of contents for their informational books, and they have started taking notes for each of the chapters of their biography.

In Math This Week...

There have been hard working mathematicians here in 4T. Your 4th grader has been practicing their factors and multiples. We have been creating beautiful factor rainbows and playing Buzz to help us with our multiples. We have also been working on writing equations for word problems. The students have been doing a wonderful job creating equations with labels and variables. We have also been working on modeling our thinking with pictures and tape models.

Important Dates and Reminders

Thursday 12/22/16 → Winter Writing Celebration and Craft

- Next week is a spelling week
- Please continue to help your 4th grader with their multiplication and division facts!
- No School 12/26/16 – 1/2/17

In Social Studies and Science This Week...

In Social Studies we getting comfortable in the Southeast Region as we begin researching for our region scrapbook page. The students have picked their topics and will be researching at home (just like the Northeast Region project). Research is due Friday December 23rd. We will begin writing our realistic fiction stories after vacations

In Science we are traveling around the world to learn about all the amazing animals out there.

Conversations Starters

1. Ask your 4th grader to teach you how to play Buzz. Make sure you have your math thinking cap on!
2. What are some facts you have learned about your southeast region topic?
3. Who are you researching for your informational writing unit?
4. How are you organizing the information you are collecting?