

Thornton/Yelle Newsletter

11/18/16

The Reading Corner...

We have finished our first reading unit. We have explored many different genres including: realistic fiction, historical fiction, trickster tales, and expository texts. We have practiced how to identify the author's purpose, draw our own conclusions, and find the main idea and supporting details.

In addition, every reading opportunity students are practicing identifying the character, the main elements of the plot, and the details that were used to describe the setting. We are really growing as readers!

Writers Workshop...

Students will be coming home with writing portfolios today. Please be on the lookout for their reflection of their growth as a writer through our narrative unit. **If you could please help to remind your child to send the portfolio back to school on Monday that would be wonderful!** Students are publishing their narratives that they have been working on in school. I am looking forward to discussing the student growth from the pre, post, and published narrative pieces at conferences.

In Math This Week...

Our little mathematicians have been working hard on adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers. We have learned several different strategies to help us solve the problems without making any SME's (Silly Math Errors). We also began exploring patterns this week.

We will continue to talk about function tables, sequence patterns, and geometric patterns. The students are having fun creating their own patterns for their classmates to solve. During the Thanksgiving week we will be reviewing some of our math skills by creating our imaginary Thanksgiving dinner. The students are having a blast with their celebrity guests as they calculate the cost of their dinner and the time they need to prepare and cook all their delicious foods. They are getting a true idea of what it's like to be a Thanksgiving chef!

Important Dates and Reminders

-Please sign and return the Unit 1 Math test, ELA tests and orange writing portfolio. We will look at this at conferences.

-Thanksgiving Celebration 11/23/16 at 10:00 A.M

- We are still welcoming any donations for our service project. This includes shipping materials and cash donations for shipping.

In Social Studies and Science This Week...

In Social Studies we have waved goodbye to the Northeast Region and boarding the train to the Southeast. I was so impressed with all that we learned from the Northeast Scrapbook pages! We are looking forward to exploring all that we can in the sunny Southeast Region.

In Science we had a great time learning about static electricity with our balloon experiment. Students used the balloons and static electricity to make their hair stand up, make paper dance, and even make them attract to the ceiling. Building electric circuits is next!

Conversations Starters

1. Create an example of a sequence pattern and find the rule.
2. Try our balloon experiment at home. All you need is a blown up balloon and your hair.
3. See conversation starter questions listed on student writing portfolios 😊