

Thornton/Yelle Newsletter

10/6/17

The Reading Corner...

We have finished our classroom read aloud, Because of Winn-Dixie, and we will begin a new book by Kate DiCamillo titled Tiger Rising. Through our classroom read aloud book, students are learning how to read intensely and 'STOP and JOT' while reading. This is encouraging students to be active readers and react with the text to build their comprehension skills. Students stop to write a thought on sticky notes, and later transfer those thoughts to a reader's notebook to grow their ideas and dive deeper into the text. In addition, we have practiced following fluency rules by reading fluency articles in class. Students should be practicing the fluency rules, when they read at home and log their minutes. The rules are on the back of the log.

Writers Workshop...

We are continuing to progress with our realistic fiction stories in our narrative unit of writing. We have made several reading/writing connections as the lessons progressed. I have introduced a graphic organizer to students that will help them generate their own realistic fiction story called the story arc. A story arc is very similar to a story mountain. Students develop the key story elements on the arc such as a problem, rising action, climax, falling action and solution. By developing a plotline for their characters students are learning character development. They are continuing to develop reading-writing connections, by identifying the plotline in books we read and making their own plotline for their realistic fiction stories.

In Math This Week...

Our little mathematicians have been working hard to compare and order multi-digit numbers. We have learned many strategies that can help us organize many big numbers at a time. One of our favorite practice games is Beat the Teacher. The kiddos love when they can make a bigger number than me. Next week we will be hopping on our number train and organizing numbers from the hundreds to the millions!

Important Dates and Reminders

Next week is a three day week.
No school on 10/10/16, 10/11/16.

Week of 10/11 – 10/13 – DOL week

In Social Studies and Science This Week...

In Social Studies we hopped on the train and began our journey around the Northeast region. The kiddos are reading articles to learn more about the landmarks, environment and climate of the Northeast Region. In Science we had a chance to create temporary magnets using permanent magnets. We learned about the atoms and how they are formed in these two forms of magnets.

Conversations Starters

1. Have your 4th grader teach you how to play beat the teacher. All you need is a deck of cards with the digits 0-9 and plain white paper. Have fun!
2. What is the difference between a permanent magnet and temporary magnet? Try to make one at home.
3. What is a story arc?
4. How do you begin a realistic fiction story?