

3B Weekly News



October 23, 2015

Greetings to all 3B families!!

This week we continued our great work and personal growth! What a joy to experience!

In math the students learned how to represent numbers with base ten pieces, diagrams, standard form, and expanded notation. We continue to practice subtracting on a numberline and now with diagrams. We are focusing on patterns in our calendar of geometry shapes, also angles and lines of symmetry. I started assessing fact knowledge of addition and subtraction facts. I am respecting the need to reduce math anxiety associated with timed tests, so students only need to try and improve the amount right and their time from the previous test.

We started a great interrelated activity using literature and math. I read two versions of "The Beanstalk" books. This was a great chance to compare and contrast the same story. Then students created a beanstalk with a partner. Children shared and explained their beanstalk and used it to practice measuring using both inches and centimeters. This data will then be used to practice creating and analyzing line plots. I also like to use this assignment to encourage students to write their own version of a beanstalk. That will be for next week!

The spelling writing continue to be taught together. Students are more familiar with parts of speech and are getting more practice in writing "Painted Paragraphs." This will continue throughout the year, as I work toward a supported "Painted Essay." Students utilize these writing skills in their vocabulary journal, this week's word being "abode." We analyzed the words in this month's poem, "Fall's falling."

Students had to prove why certain words were verbs, and then illustrate the poem in their poetry books.

We began our science unit focusing on the human body. We learned about how much water our body's need, the food pyramid, cells, and the brain and heart. Students are becoming more aware of their activities that feed both their body and brain. They too are learning about healthy food choices, and the number of servings recommended each day from each food group.

We revisited our nature first-person narrative writing. The children absolutely love going to our outdoor learning site, finding a special spot, and writing in the first person. The writing is great, but they also equally enjoy sharing their writing!!! This week pieces were authored as rocks, birds, trees, streams, and wolves to name a few!!!

The final performance assessment with the weather unit is complete. Students presented their posters to the class and shared their favorite part and most important fact within their work. They then chose who to receive feedback about what they did really well, and then what they could improve on next time. These are all presenting and discussion skills that are also required aspects of their curriculum. They then used the rubric to score themselves, and then throughout the week I sat with each student to score and discuss their work. I liked how they were using previous work experiences to improve the current piece of work.

Still looking for 2-liter, clear plastic soda bottles with caps. Scientists need one for a pretty great model we will be building in our scientific lab!!!

I've sent out the conference schedule. Conferences are 11/5, 11/6. This is a conversation format, meaning your child is the "Star" of the meeting. I like to share their accomplishments with them there and hear from us about what we are proud of. If you feel we need another opportunity to meet without your child present, we can also schedule that too.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs. Bishop

