

3B Weekly News



January 8, 2016

Here we go into a new year with a strong week in 3B! This week we began multiplication. Students are learning about factors, products, communitive property and arrays. I will be giving fact tests soon, after we complete some flashcards. I will



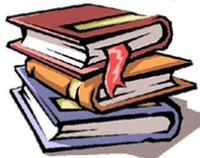
keep using XTRA Math for the addition/subtraction fact practice. There are only two students in the Addition fact club. I am hoping students choose to use XTRA math at home for the practice and "beef up" the members of this all important "Plus Facts" club!!!

We are continuing with learning phonetic rules and integrating framing your thoughts grammar instruction in the lessons. Students are beginning to easily use predicate expanders with the homework practice of this work.

The BIG EVENT this week was cursive. Students began learning the lower case letters. Next week we will focus on upper case letters. Then it will be practice, practice, and practice!!!



ESSAY ZONE

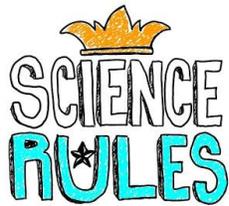


I began my weekly Painted Essay writing prompts. **Learn** This week it focused on the familiar, the holiday vacation. The **Research** introduction proved to be tricky for most, but this work will **Exceed your expectations** continue throughout the year.

Students should be reading their Diversity book over the weekend. They have been using this knowledge to complete their poster about this important person. Next week the Painted Essay will be about why their person represents diversity in our culture. I keep encouraging students to



reread their book, as the writing will prove to be very challenging without solid knowledge of this person's life. Also, I am asking that when we are ready to present our work, that students "dress" as their person. They will be presenting in the first-person, so it is more fun if they look like the person too!!! Your child may be asking for ideas on how to dress to represent their person's identity!!



Finally, we began a fun, inquiry-based science unit, Mystery Powders. Students used observational skills to describe the six, white Mystery Powders. They also described how the powders reacted when water was introduced to each powder. Next week we will continue with microscopes, heat, and vinegar. Then students will use their notes to create an evidence-based conclusion about what each powder is.

Next week will also mark the beginning of reading groups. The main topic will be mysteries to complement the science work.

We finished the reading of the Red Clover books. Students completed an ABC Quilt featuring aspects of story elements from all the books. Then they wrote about their favorites and common learning theme from the book collection.



BAG NEEDED

With winter finally upon us, your child will need a bag for carrying outside gear downstairs. It is kept in the bag while they are at their Related Arts, and following recess students can use the bag to store hats/mittens while at lunch. Please make sure your child's name is on the bag and all winter gear. Thank you!

And of course we celebrated Elvis' birthday with some Munchkins!!!



Have a great weekend!

