



Friday, November 13, 2015

Weekly Class News

From the third grade class of Ms. Revelli

Teacher's Note:

I want to thank you all for a great week last week during parent teacher conferences. It was great getting to meet with you all and discuss all the amazing things your 3rd grader has been doing as well as setting some goals for the rest of the year! It is reassuring that we are off in the right direction and I am looking forward to more growth as the year goes on! We were back to normal this week, full days, with lots and lots to do. We continued working in our new unit in math that we started last week and started exploring the reading world of nonfiction reading. At first, the 3rd graders weren't too excited about holding off on fiction for a while, but are realizing how much fun reading nonfiction is, and how much you can learn about certain topics! It takes a different type of reading for sure! Just a reminder that we have a field trip next week! PLEASE make sure to cancel Children's Choice lunch for next Thursday for we will be eating lunch at the lake before going into the center. Pack a snack for your 3rd grader as well to hold them over before lunch.

This Week's Focus and Standards:

Reading and Writing: Nonfiction reading, boxes and bullets, and becoming an "Active Reader." The art of persuasive writing.

Math: Applying addition strategies to solve more challenging problems as well as learning a few new ones! **STUDY MULTIPLICATION FACTS!!!**

Social Studies/Science: Energy & Matter. Taking a look at "The First Californian's."

REMINDERS: Field Trip on Thursday! Have a great weekend! Hoping for some rain!



Highlights

We continued **Writer's Workshop** this week began looking at persuasive writing, and some of the "ins and outs" for making a persuasive piece really work for their audience! We looked at many of the important details that we need to include, like evidence to support our writing to make our arguments stronger, getting the audience to really like and believe you to change their mind, connecting to the audience by using emotion and passion, and much more. We read the really fun story, *My Lucky Day*, and began our brainstorming. Their persuasive writing has a different twist, a fun one for this time of year, for they are writing from the view point of a TURKEY, trying to persuade their audience to eat something else for Thanksgiving! Can't wait for the end results! For **Reader's Workshop** we jumped right into our nonfiction unit with both feet! There was a lot of resistance at first, but they have fallen in love with nonfiction reading! Their homework assignment this week was on using one of the techniques we learned in class, using "Boxes and Bullets" to separate the main idea of the passage and then notate the support provided in the book. We spent a lot of time looking at the features of nonfiction writing, and how to approach it. We learned that as a nonfiction reader, we are more of an active reader, actively learning about the content, sitting there with post-its in hand OR their reading journal or a piece of paper. They don't want these class sessions to end!! In **Math**, we worked on applying addition strategies to larger numbers, our new favorite, the "Give and Take" strategy. Have your 3rd grader explain this strategy to you! We have finally figured out our very challenging pattern in Number Corner, and are learning a lot about fractions along the way too! They even know how to simplify fractions! **CONTINUE having your 3rd graders commit their facts to memory!** We took a practice test today, given in 2 min. instead of 1. Not bad! I will continue to give them practices over the next few weeks. In **Science**, we completed our first round of experiments in Energy and Matter and went over them. **Social Studies**, we spent some time reading about what it was like to live as an Ohlone 250 some odd years ago. The 3rd graders were very interested in this!

M	Tu	W	Th	Fr
Nov. 16 Class picture day & make-ups	Nov. 17	Nov. 18	Nov. 19 Jr. Center Field Trip	Nov. 20 spelling test
Nov. 23 ~~~~~	Nov. 24 ~~~~~	Nov. 25 Thanksgiving Week	Nov. 26 Happy Thanksgiving	Nov. 27 ~~~~~
Nov. 30	Dec. 1	Dec. 2	Dec. 3	Dec. 4
Dec. 7	Dec. 8	Dec. 9	Dec. 10	Dec. 11 Spelling test
Dec. 14	Dec. 15	Dec. 16	Dec. 17	Dec. 18 Winter Music Presentation