



Friday, January 8, 2016

# Weekly Class News

From the third grade class of Ms. Revelli

## Teacher's Note:

Happy 2016! I hope you all had a fantastic two weeks off and were ready to jump right in to this new year! We had quite a busy week in third grade, seeming as if we didn't even have a break! It was refreshing to see how they all came back very focused, and excited to get back into the swing of learning. I was really impressed with the fact that so many of you took on the challenge of trying to solve the pattern for the remainder of the month of December. The kids were quite pleased with their predictions when we checked on Monday, and it was a fun way for you to have a little sneak peek of our morning routine. Our week was filled with lots of learning. Between fun art projects, reading, writing, and math, and then adding some science, there is a lot being discussed in class! I hope they are able to maintain their excitement and share their days with you! One new finding, we are in the process of getting the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders their own account on newsela, (News Elementary), which are articles geared towards a younger audience. Those that have signed on, have thoroughly enjoyed reading up on current events and applying some of their strategies we have been learning throughout our nonfiction unit. They have a much more knowledgeable approach to tackling the comprehension of articles like this, which is fun to see! Since we have been back from break, I have heard from the gift giving program where we helped a family in need. They were very pleased with all the donations they received this year and were able to help 142 families in need. Our contribution was one of those families, so thank you, so much, for helping to make a difference this holiday season! **Science Wizard:** Gianluca did a great job teaching the class today about the chemical reaction that is created when mixing baking soda and vinegar, and how it creates carbon dioxide. It was fun to see if he could really inflate a glove with those gasses! Success! **Classroom Donations:** We would always welcome Clorox or Lysol wipes to help keep germs to a minimum

## This Week's Focus and Standards:

**Reading and Writing:** Nonfiction reading, boxes and bullets, and biographies. Completing all written assignments up until this point as well as starting our Informative Writing unit.

**Math:** Unit 4, students have been working on telling time, elapsed time, as well as measurement, primarily focusing on the metric system.

**STUDY MULTIPLICATION FACTS!!!**

**Social Studies/Science:** Starting our unit on "Sun Moon & Stars"

**Upcoming** Field trip to Chabot. Permission slips to be sent home soon! Be on the look-out!

## Highlights

We began 2016 **Writer's Workshop** with thinking about some resolutions for the New Year and reflecting on those, hoping they will be able to stick with them. We took a look at the format of a 5-paragraph essay, and they were off. The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are also in the process of typing their "Small Moment" story from last trimester. If they aren't completed, please encourage them to finish these **at home** on their google drive. For **Reader's Workshop**, we are wrapping up our nonfiction unit with a focus on biographies. We are in the process of learning a lot of different approaches on how to tackle biographies, for it is a different type of reading than expository text. One of the main **take aways** is that it is important to at least know why the person they are reading about is important and what they did in order to have the honor of a bio written on them. From that, readers are to then formulate a main idea, and find the evidence from the text that supports that. We have learned that a lot of times, authors include a lot of facts that aren't that important. We had a fun analogy about LeBron James and waffles. Be sure to ask them about this! In **Math**, we continued our lessons on session 4 and our focus this week was on finding the mass of certain objects, and the difference between mass and weight. Check with your 3<sup>rd</sup> grader to see if they can explain this concept to you. We also reviewed telling time and elapsed time, which they seem to be fairly comfortable with. Have them practice telling time on an analog clock, the exposure to this format will be helpful. Also having them keep track of their activities and how long they take, and totaling those up would be helpful too. **CONTINUE having your 3<sup>rd</sup> graders commit their facts to memory!** Next Friday, **January 15<sup>th</sup>**, we will have our first test. Everyone will be starting with the factors of 2. They will have **1 min.** to answer **30 problems**, identically formatted to the ones they have been practicing for the last few weeks. **Science** this week was a little tough, for we started our unit on "Sun, Moon and Stars," and we had a lot of cloudy days! We finally got a little peek of sun on Friday and were able to track the sun 3 times that day, figuring out our cardinal directions and tracking that sun from East to West. More activities on this unit to come!

M	Tu	W	Th	Fr
Jan. 11	Jan. 12	Jan. 13	Jan. 14	Jan. 15 Lizzy's Science Wizard Spelling Test First Mad Min. Test
Jan. 18 No School MLK	Jan. 19 No School PD for teachers	Jan. 20	Jan. 21	Jan. 22 Lauren's Wizard Mad Min Chabot field trip
Jan. 25	Jan. 26	Jan. 27	Jan. 28	Jan. 29 Drake's Science Wizard Spelling Test Mad Min.
Feb. 1	Feb. 2	Feb. 3	Feb. 4	Feb. 5 Haylee's Science Wizard Mad. Min
Feb. 8	Feb. 9	Feb. 10	Feb. 11	Feb. 12 Dorothy's Science Wizard Mad. Min Spelling Test