



Friday, February 5, 2016

Weekly Class News

From the third grade class of Ms. Revelli

Teacher's Note:

Happy February! "This week, we said goodbye to Mrs. Smith. We wrote her some testimonials and put them together in a book for her as a goodbye gift. We also made bracelets with her, spelling out our initials in code, which is something she taught us. The beads are UV sensitive beads and changed colors in the sun. We also did some coding with her for our last class." – Markos **We are in the search of** some sticks about 7-8 inches long to bind our Ohlone books we are in the process of writing! Be on the lookout around the yard and bring them in when you get a chance! **Points Party:** Last week, 3rd grade earned their 50 points and we need some help celebrating! They voted on having this party on **Friday February 26th**. The kids suggested the idea of having a breakfast party first thing in the morning, wearing pjs, AND watching a movie. Please let me know if you are willing and able to provide some breakfast treats. Quite a few were insistent on bacon!!! Email me if you are able to help out! **Friday February 12th** is going to be quite a day! Along with all our other activities of the day, it is also Reading Day and our Valentines Day celebration! Students will be allowed to come to school in their pajamas, and we will also have a fun early morning celebration doing Valentine crafts and then handing out our Valentines. **Science Wizard:** Today Drake taught us all about what happens when vinegar is mixed with milk, and how when it is heated, and then cooled, the vinegar separates the curd, which brings out the protein, creating a rubbery substance. One of the really cool things is that this substance was once used to make plastic years and years ago! What fun! Hope you all have a fantastic weekend! **Don't forget to sign up for parent-teacher conferences!!!!** Looking forward to seeing you all at Open House!

This Week's Focus and Standards:

Reading and Writing: Fiction reading, with an emphasis on character. Completing all written assignments up until this point as well as our Informative Writing unit.

Math: Completing Unit 4 on measurement and fractions as well as beginning Unit 5 on multiplication, division, and area.

STUDY MULTIPLICATION FACTS!!!

Social Studies/Science: Ohlone

Upcoming Open House 2/11, Valentine's Day 2/12.

Highlights

This week for **Writer's Workshop** we continued to work on our expert reports. Several of them have been bound, and others have also made really good progress on their typing! They understand the format of writing an informative writing piece, including table of contents, and all the other parts. We are practicing these skills with our next writing project as well on the Ohlone! Can't wait for those! For **Reader's Workshop**, we are diving deeper into our character studies, and finding that this is actually pretty tricky work! The lessons this week focused on noticing character traits and finding evidence to support those traits in the story, and then noticing patterns in a character's behavior, taking those traits and evidence, and formulating a theory about that particular character. We have been running into all different kinds of roadblocks with students who have more than one main character, or students whose books only have very developed characters. We are practicing taking the time to go back into our books, and start from the beginning, several times, paying close attention to the post-its and trying to find these patterns. Very sophisticated if you ask me! A helpful way to practice this at home would be for you to have book talks with your 3rd grade, and have them talk to you about the character in the book they are reading. Extra practice never hurts! In **Math**, we wrapped up unit 4 on fractions and measurement with a very successful post-assessment. I was very pleased with how well the students did on this test, and even though they haven't seen their scores, in talking to them about their success, they commented on how they really feel like they know the concepts from that unit! Very mature of them to self reflect like that! We began unit 5 today, but didn't quite finish. A new "Home Connection" book will be coming home soon, and the class workbook will also be going home with you on Thursday, Open House! **CONTINUE having your 3rd graders commit their facts to memory!** For **Social Studies**, we did a lot of reading on the Native American tribes that lived in the different regions of California, and how they all had to live slightly differently based on their natural resources, and then we zoomed in and took a close look at the Ohlone. We read all about their ways of life, their traditions, and much more. Currently we are in the process of choosing 4-6 areas of interest and creating our own Ohlone books.

M	Tu	W	Th	Fr
Feb. 8	Feb. 9	Feb. 10	Feb. 11 Open House! 11:55 dismissal	Feb. 12 Dorothy's Science Wizard Mad. Min Spelling Test Valentine's Day Celebration
Feb. 15 -----	Feb. 16 -----	Feb. 17 President's Week No School	Feb. 18 -----	Feb. 19 -----
Feb. 22	Feb. 23	Feb. 24	Feb. 25	Feb. 26 Tiago's Science Wizard Mad. Min
Feb. 29 -----	March 1 -----	March 2 Parent teacher Conferences	March 3 -----	March 4 Logan's Science Wizard Mad. Min Spelling Test
March 7 No School	March 8	March 9	March 10	March 11 Emma's Science Wizard Mad. Min