



This Week in Third Grade...

Math: We will continue our new Fractions Unit this week. Students will be learning about equivalent fractions with the same numerator and different denominators. We will then jump into recognizing and properly placing fractions on number lines. This is probably the toughest set of lessons for students to understand particularly because number lines are relatively abstract in regards to fractions and placement! However, I must say, as a whole, I feel like students have been doing a really lovely job grasping this unit and what fractions actually mean. We will have a small mid-module quiz that focuses on unshaded and shaded parts of fractions, unit fractions, etc. We will be reviewing this throughout the week. Thus, I do not anticipate great difficulty with this upcoming assessment.

Reading: This week, We will be continuing our reading entitled "Two Bear Cubs." In addition, students will be participating in "Power Up" Literary review sessions where we focus on skills learned in both fiction and nonfiction. This week, we will be focusing once again on key ideas and details of both nonfiction and fiction. Students will also be reading a second piece/pieces of literature that relate to the environment. On book is entitled "Miss Rumphius" and the second is entitled "The Great Dream." Both are excellent pieces of literature that have a great central message and fabulous characterization.

We will continue our Civil Rights Book Reflections for a few more weeks (new books have been added to the pile each week.) The reflection journals have been well thought out and very thorough. Students picked a new book on Thursday, and their journal entry will be due this coming Friday! In addition, all students should be finishing up their AR books for this upcoming month! February is an incredibly short month. Thus, the deadline is upon us already!

Writing/ Grammar: We began In writing, students will begin their Opinion Essays entitled "The Best Part of Me." Students wrote all three supporting reasons and examples. This week, we are focusing on writing our conclusion as well as undergoing a pretty extensive revision session where students are asked to choose their "weakest paragraph" and transform it so that there is sentence variety, descriptive details and excellent transition words utilized throughout. Mini-revision sessions will take place as we continue! In grammar, students will actually be designing their own "children's book" utilizing complex, compound and simple sentences as we focus on sentence variety and complexity in this particular "mini-grammar" unit.

Read Aloud: We are just now going to be beginning our very first "independent novel study" where students will work on discussing the characters, theme and overall plot development of a book entitled "Extra Credit" written by Andrew Clements. As has been our ongoing theme throughout this year, students will be given the opportunity to learn about the culture of Afghanistan and compare it to culture in the United States. The book is written from the perspective of two different characters (one of which lives in Afghanistan and the other in the United States.)

Handwriting: We will be reviewing our lowercase letters this week through the connecting of two or three letters to make words. In addition, we will continue capital letters this week as part of our direct instruction.

Science: This week, students will be exploring reflection and refractions through a variety of hands-on activities as well as technology. Next week, we will begin our journey through a few more Social Studies Units focusing on important people throughout history who have helped their community, etc.

Third Grade Power Team

Ms. Amoscato's News

Dear Families,

Good Afternoon! I hope everyone has had a weekend that has allowed for rejuvenation and relaxation! It certainly is helping that the weather is becoming increasingly warmer! Please be sure that your child is reading their AR book! The month of February is sprinting by quicker than I could have ever imagined! In addition, please be sure that your child is reading their new Civil Rights book which will be due this coming Friday!

As I mentioned earlier, progress reports are being written as I speak! All progress reports should be received by Tuesday or Wednesday of this week! In addition, I will be offering in-person parent-teacher conferences sometime either at the end of March or the very beginning of April! I always find it important to touch base again once more before the end of the school year to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have about the upcoming year!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or concerns. Thank you to everyone who donated to our class "art activity" basket! We have so many supplies! I thank you for your generosity!

Lastly, there are NO spelling words for this week as we are continuing the drama from last week and extending it into this week due to the shortened week and crazy academic schedule as of late!

Warmly,
Miss Amoscato

Upcoming Tests

A Vocabulary Test and Comprehension Test will take place on Friday

A small Math Quiz will take place on Thursday!

IMPORTANT NOTES!

PLEASE be certain your child is reading their AR book for the month!

TAKE 5! All students should be practicing their multiplication facts for (5 minutes) each and every night!