



Room 9 Weekly Newsletter

Week of December 4 - 8, 2017

Reading

This week's reading lessons included:

- paying attention to HOW authors get us to REACT to their stories (what makes a story happy, sad, surprising, etc.)
- reading fluently and expressively
- talking about books and our reactions to them with a reading partner
- retelling books we have listened to or read using sentence starters such as:

"In the beginning...."

"First...." "Then...."

"In the middle..."

"Next..." "After that...."

"At the end..."

"Finally...."

- thinking about the LESSON the author wants US to learn through the characters in their story

"The lesson the author is trying to teach us is ..."

Math

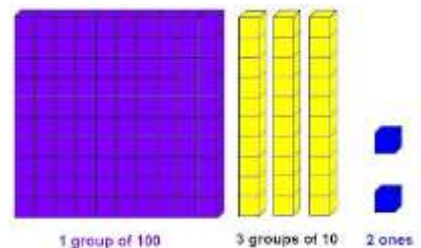
Our Math lessons have focused on:

- making a fun Pizza Fractions project with questions for other students in the school to answer
- reviewing skip counting by 5s and 2s through our "Pop" game that we enjoy so much!

(We spend time skip counting as readiness for multiplication and division in third grade!)

- introducing place value work as we build 2-digit numbers with tens and ones blocks and draw tens and ones blocks to represent 2-digit numbers
- end the week counting up our money (using our skip counting skills!) and visiting the classroom store ☺

These are place value blocks:



1 group of 100

3 groups of 10

2 ones

Hundreds

Tens

Ones



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Writing

In Writing, we have focused on:

- writing our own fiction stories as we create a version of The Mitten to display in our door decorating contest! I was impressed with the creativity the kids showed!
- trying to add dialogue and action to our pieces to make them more interesting for our readers!
- exploring our COLLECTIONS and beginning an Expert Writing Piece (nonfiction) about them

So far, we have created:

- a cover page that grabs the reader's interest
- a TABLE OF CONTENTS that shows the reader what they will learn in our books
- an INTRODUCTION that introduces our topics and what we will teach

** Nonfiction books look and sound very different from personal narratives and fiction!

Science / Social Studies

We have continued our travels around the world to learn how different winter holidays are celebrated. This week, we journeyed to the following countries:

- Brazil - Christmas
- Germany - St. Nicholas Day

We even wrote persuasive letters to convince St. Nicholas to visit us at OPS! Guess what?! HE CAME!!!

- Canada - Christmas
- Israel - Chanukah

We're having fun learning about how people celebrate around the world! We're also having fun learning where these countries are on a world map and what their various flags look like!

Announcements

** December 14th is a HALF DAY of school and we'll dismiss at 11:30 a.m. Parent-teacher conferences will occur during the afternoon.

** There is a Coffee and Conversation with the Principal on December 19th at 10:30 a.m.

** December 22nd is our Winter Spectacular Concert. Our class' parents should have received tickets to attend the 1:45 show. (A few of you with siblings may have received tickets to the 9:30 show instead.) We hope to see you then!

** Field trip permission forms for our trip to the high school are due DECEMBER 15th. We'll also choose our 2 parent chaperones that day.