

January 13, 2014

Check out what's going on in Team 403 this week!

In The Classroom

- ❖ In **math workshop**, we will continue to apply the equivalent fraction rule. Students will need to use this rule in order to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators. They will also learn how to find the fractional part of a whole number (e.g., What is $\frac{3}{4}$ of 24?) and focus on drawing labeled models to go with their work.
- ❖ In **reading workshop**, we will continue to work small groups using reciprocal teaching. Students will take turns applying predicting, questioning, clarifying, and summarizing skills while reading various texts. We also started a new read aloud book last week: Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH by Robert C. O'Brien. To help improve our reading reflections, we will be using this as a shared text to work towards higher-order thinking questions.
- ❖ In **writing workshop**, many students have finished publishing their first persuasive essay on whether or not homework should be banned. We will continue planning and writing our second essay, which is on whether students should be allowed to bring lunch from home. This particular essay involves the use of multiple choices and the focus skills will be citing/quoting text evidence and keeping a more formal voice in their writing.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Mon. January 20 MLK, Jr. Day (No School)
- ❖ Wed. January 22 Parent Workshop on CCLS and 4th Grade State Tests (8:00-8:25am)

Announcements & Reminders

- ❖ Last week, we launched the Reading Response Zone, which you can find in your child's HW folder. This is to encourage your child to write reading responses. (A sticker is given for each marked response.) I have been writing comments on the responses so that students are aware of their next steps. Please remind your child to read them before writing a new reading response.
- ❖ Students also got Spelling Quiz Record sheet to keep track of their progress. Since it keeps track of the words they misspelled, it will serve as their personal word wall as well. If you prefer to keep your child's spelling quiz at home, you can initial this record next to each week instead.
- ❖ Last Friday, the class earned their second Marble Jar prize. They redeemed their 100 marbles for movie time (Monsters University) instead of their usual Friday choice time.
- ❖ Please keep an eye out for the flyer on the 4th Grade Parent Workshop! If you are unable to make it, do not worry, as I will upload the handout that week onto the class blog.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to backpack a note to school or email me at kho@schools.nyc.gov!

Thank you,
Kelly Ho