

February 10, 2014

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

In The Classroom

- ❖ In **math workshop**, we will work on decomposing fractions and identifying data (fractions) on a line plot. We will also spend some time reviewing specific word problems that I noticed students having difficulties with, such as finding a fraction of whole set. At the end of the week, the summative performance task will be given. I am very happy that students have improved in their explanations and models, as shown in the formative performance task that was given last week!
- ❖ In **reading workshop**, we will continue to work in small groups using reciprocal teaching. Students will take turns applying predicting, questioning, clarifying, and summarizing skills while reading a differentiated news article. We will also be reading Chapters 11-12 in Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH as a class. In addition to guided reading and read aloud, we will spend certain reading workshops doing close reading on specific events that led up to the American Revolution to supplement the writing unit. For this week, we will focus on the French Indian War!
- ❖ In **writing workshop**, students have finalized their research questions and the three subtopics in which they will attempt to address that question. We will spend this week researching and taking notes for their informational article. I will also bring the students into the Computer Lab for online research. As mentioned in the notice that was sent home last Friday, please allow some time for your child to go to the library for additional resources so that they can use them during this week.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Mon. 2/10 – Fri. 2/14 Valentine Lollipop Fundraiser Week (run by the PTA)
- ❖ **Wed. February 12 Half Day (Dismissal @ 11:38am)**
- ❖ Fri. February 14 100th Day of School
- ❖ **Mon. 2/17 – Fri. 2/21 No School due to Mid-Winter Recess**

Announcements & Reminders

- ❖ For the upcoming Mid-Winter Recess, students will be asked to complete a math study packet along with a Reading Response. **If you know that you are leaving earlier for vacation, please let me know so that I can give the appropriate work to your child before he/she leaves.**
- ❖ This Reading Response will count towards their “Reading Response Zone” and that some students still have not written their first one after coming back from the last Winter Break. It is important that students are writing and thinking deeply about the books they are reading at home.
- ❖ **Studio in a School** – Last week, Mr. Tim spoke to me about how he has decided that he will also teach the students how to build 3D objects out of paper. This will allow more control over details in their robots than using all bulky recyclable materials. Lastly, thank you for your contributions!

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