

February 3, 2014

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

In The Classroom

- ❖ In **math workshop**, we will continue to work with mixed numbers with like and unlike denominators while solving word problems. In these word problems, students are expected to draw a labeled visual model, write an equation, and justify how their models helped them solve the problem. (An equation is not enough!) It is important that students show how they divided their models to show equivalent fractions with dotted lines.
- ❖ 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 8-10 in Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH as a class. In addition guided reading and read aloud, we will also look at various nonfiction texts to not only identify the topic of the text, but also the author's perspective about that topic. This will help in our research process for Informational Writing.
- ❖ In **writing workshop**, we have wrapped up the Persuasive Writing Unit with the final performance task. These tasks will be scored to show student progress in this area. We will continue working with nonfiction in the next unit, which is **Informational Writing**. Students will be researching about an open-ended, deep question they have about the Colonial Times. The published product of this unit will be an informational article with nonfiction features that enhance the understanding of the text (like a Scholastic News article).

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

- ❖ Many of the students' models have improved! Thank you for reminding them to label their visual models on the math homework. Please keep in mind that this is a very important skill!
- ❖ When students have finalized their research questions for writing, we will require additional resources. Please allow some time for your child to go visit his/her local library for books to help in their research process. More info will be provided in a notice that will be sent later in the week.
- ❖ **Studio in a School** – Please continue bringing in **recyclables**. We want to make sure there is enough material when students begin to build their robots!

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