



Mrs. Chang's Emojine Weekly

August 28, 2017, Issue 2

"The capacity to learn is a gift; the ability to learn is a skill; the willingness to learn is a choice." Brian Herbert

Important Dates

Aug. 28, 2017, 8:05-8:30 AM
Student Orchestra Meet

Sept. 4, 2017
Labor Day, No School

Sept. 6, 2017, 7 PM, BHS
Orchestra Parent Night

Sept. 13, 2017, 6:30 PM
Back to School Night

Sept. 15, 2017, 4:30-7:30 PM
PTO Back to School Bash

Sept. 27-28, 5-8 PM
Family Picture Nights

Sept. 28, 2017
Picture Day

Sept. 28, 2017, 9:30-11:30 AM
Stillman Field Trip

Read Aloud

Wonder by R. J. Palacio

Last Week

We had a successful first week of school with several school-wide activities! We viewed the solar eclipse together on Monday, watched the Peanuts assembly on the positive behavior expectations of Grove, and had a summer study celebration with our teachers from last year. What a way to begin the year! For **morning work**, students began getting used to language arts work on grammar, punctuation, handwriting, and analogies. In **reading**, students took a pre-unit assessment, and we read a picture book, Uncle Jed's Barbershop, to introduce the skills students will encounter and practice during our first reading unit, Reading Fiction. We focused on character traits, patterns in behavior, and themes. In **writing**, we begin our first unit on writing Realistic Fiction by thinking about small moments that really happened to develop story ideas; students learned that writers likely use small moments with strong emotions and write stories that they think should exist in the world to make personal connections. In **math**, we began chapter one on Place Value and numbers up to 100,000; students reviewed writing numbers in word, standard, and expanded forms, and learned to compare and order 5-digit numbers. Students also began their math fact practice on Reflex Math on iPads. In science, students set up their science notebooks with title page, About the Scientist, Table of Contents, and Index. Mr. Wager, our **STEM** teacher, also gave us a Growth Mode lesson on the benefits of making mistakes; when we make mistakes, our brain makes connections and helps us learn. In **word study**, we covered Unit 1 Lesson 1 and took a quiz on Friday. Students have done a great job with daily reading (minimum of 30 minutes) and logging in their reading logs! Parents, please sign it at week's end.



Conversation Starters

What is theme (a life lesson or moral of the story)?
Which small moment did you develop story ideas from?
What number comes before and after 90,000 (98,999 and 90,001)? What is Reflex Math (math app)? How do you unlock new games? How did you take the vocabulary quiz (on Schoology on the iPad)? Can you show me your grade on Schoology (go to Wordy Study course, grade)?
Are you logging your reading every day? Please remind me to sign your reading log! (Thank you!)

This Week

- In **reading**, we begin reading the mentor text, The Tiger Rising, to help us interpret characters and understand the heart of the story. Students will learn to read intently to grow ideas about the characters and the story, retell and envision to help solidify comprehension.
- In **writing**, we will begin developing believable characters by building their external and internal traits, develop their struggles and motivations, and begin plotting on a story arc.
- In **math**, we continue Chapter 1 on place value. Students will compare numbers using "<" and ">", order numbers, and tell one number is how much "more than" another number. I anticipate our first chapter test on Friday. Students will continue with daily warm-up of Math Minutes (reviews a variety of math skills, on Mon, Wed, and Fri) and Reflex Math (on Tu, Th) before daily lessons.
- In **science**, we begin with the animal studies unit studying animal structures and functions. We will study African dwarf frogs and fiddler crabs beginning this week!
- In **word study**, we will cover Unit 1 Part 2 (root word study) of Word Wisdom. Students can access vocabulary definitions on Quizlet. We will have a quiz on Friday.
- In **technology**, we will set up accounts on MyON and EPIC, both reading apps to help students have 24 access to great digital fiction and nonfiction books.