



# Mrs. Chang's Emojine Weekly

September 5, 2017, Issue 3

"The more that you read, the more things you'll know.  
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr. Seuss

## Important Dates

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

Sept. 13, 2017, 6:30-8:15 PM  
Back to School Night

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

Sept. 25, 2017, 9:15 AM  
PTO Room Parent Meeting

Sept. 26, 2017  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade STEM Class Begins  
(tentative, ends Oct. 30)

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

Sept. 28, 2017  
Picture Day

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

## Read Aloud

Wonder by R. J. Palacio

## Last Week

Students are getting used to their new 4<sup>th</sup> grade schedules and routines, and we had a smooth week of learning and fun! For **morning work**, students began our Friday End-of-Week Share; they write about highlights of their week, and we complete a quick language arts quiz on the back (I show them a sentence, ask them to notice punctuation marks/grammar, and dictate another similar sentence for them to write down). In **reading**, we began reading the fiction mentor text, The Tiger Rising; students annotated, discussed, and answered questions about the text; they also learned synthesis retelling. In **writing**, students decided on a story idea they will use to write a narrative realistic fiction story; they also examined their main character by writing down his/her external and internal character traits, as well as his/her wants (desires, motivations) and struggles (challenges, obstacles). In **math**, we completed Chapter 1 and took a chapter test on Friday; students continued to work on Reflex Math to strengthen their math fact fluency, and received login information for their Tenmarks account. In **science**, students planned out their classroom frog habitats and introduced dwarf African frogs to them; they observed and made recordings, drew and labeled pictures of the habitats and external frog structures. In **word study**, we covered Unit 1 Part 2 and took a quiz on Friday. We began our first lesson in **Second Step**, a social-emotional curriculum to help students get along with peers and manage their emotions; we learned about the word "empathy" and how to treat others with respect. 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. We also continue our awesome **read aloud**, Wonder.



## Conversation Starters

Which characters are in The Tiger Rising (Rob, Sistine)?  
What are their character traits (Rob is passive; Sistine is sassy)?  
How did you do on your vocabulary quiz and math test?  
What is Tenmarks (math app for problem solving and deeper concept understanding)?  
What is the realistic fiction narrative story you are writing about?  
What is your character's external/internal traits?  
Motivations and struggles?  
What does "empathy" mean (to feel what others are feeling, be "in their shoes")?

## This Week

- In **reading**, we continue reading the mentor text, The Tiger Rising, to help students think deeply about the characters. Students will practice envisioning the story, make goals to improve comprehension, develop defensible ideas about characters, and use the story arc to understand more details.
- In **writing**, students will plot their story idea on a story arc (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution); they will write their story using the technique, "show, not tell"; and begin writing the lead (or exposition) of their story.
- In **math**, we begin Chapter Two on Estimation and Number Theory. Students will receive the Extra Packet for this chapter to keep at home. Estimation skills help students have solid number sense, and for Number Theory we will study factors (greatest common factors) and multiples (least common multiples).
- In **science**, we will continue to care for and investigate our dwarf African frogs, and we will welcome fiddler crabs into our classroom on Friday.
- In **word study**, we will cover Unit 1 Part 3 of Word Wisdom. Students can access vocabulary definitions on Quizlet. We will have a quiz on Friday, so please study the 10 words on Quizlet on Thursday!
- In **technology**, we will use Padlet to recommend a book to our classmates, and we will use Seesaw to share work with our parents!