



Mrs. Chang's Emojine Weekly

September 11, 2017, Issue 4

"There is no need for temples, no need for complicated philosophies. My brain and my heart are my temples; my philosophy is kindness." Dalai Lama

Important Dates

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
4th 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

We had a short but productive week! In **reading**, we continued to read the fiction mentor text, The Tiger Rising; students learned to envision/visualize the text to help with comprehension, pushing themselves to make meaningful interpretations by predicting character behavior; students also learned to notice character motivations and struggles to look for important details behavioral patterns. In **writing**, students plotted their realistic fiction story on a story arc and began drafting the Exposition and Rising Action portion of their story arc; students learned that writers create drama with the technique, "show, not tell," and write stories in scenes using dialogue and action, oftentimes placing themselves in their characters' shoes to write the story. In **math**, we began Chapter 2 on Estimation and Number Theory; we learned to estimate sums, differences, products, and quotients to check if our exact answers are reasonable. In **science**, students designed an investigation to see frogs' responses to one variable: change in temperature, light, or motion, and recorded their results and stated a claim; students also introduced their fiddler crabs into their model habitats collaboratively. In **word study**, we covered Unit 1 Part 3 and took a quiz on Friday; they are doing a great job of studying at home for these short quizzes. In our **Second Step** program, students learned strategies to listen with attention; this will help them focus and do well in school and life. Parents, please sign your child's reading log at week's end and empty out the take-home folder. We also continue our awesome **read aloud**, Wonder. Students are making great connections between this novel and The Tiger Rising! They are also enjoying sketch-noting in Notability on their iPads, recording sketches and important details of the story.



Conversation Starters

How are both Rob and Sistine changing in The Tiger Rising? What behavior patterns have you noticed in them? How many green lights did you get in Reflex Math last week? What is the purpose of estimating sums, differences, products, and quotients? What technique do realistic fiction writers use to create drama ("show, not tell")? What did you learn from Mr. Walcott's Bus Safety presentation? How do frogs' internal structures help them survive? What did you notice about fiddler crabs?

This Week

- In **reading**, we continue reading the mentor text, The Tiger Rising. Students learn to notice repeated traits, behaviors, details, and objects; practice using precise words to describe characters and traits; notice complications in characters; find debatable ideas to argue; and find evidence grounded in texts.
- In **writing**, students will continue to draft their realistic fiction stories; use rubrics to revise and edit their writing; and learn strategies to write powerful endings.
- In **math**, we begin learning about factors of a number (ways to count to that number). Then we will look for the greatest common factors of 2 numbers, prime and composite numbers, and then on to multiples of a number, and the least common multiple of 2 numbers.
- In **science**, we will continue to care for and investigate our fiddler crabs, learn about crabs' structures and behaviors, read several selections of texts on animal structures and behaviors.
- In **word study**, we will cover Unit 1 Part 4 of Word Wisdom, a review for Unit 1. Students can access vocabulary definitions on Quizlet. We will have a test on all 30 words in the unit on Friday on Schoology.
- In **technology**, we will use Padlet to recommend a book to our classmates (did not get to this last week as Mr. Walcott gave a Bus Safety presentation).

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday evening at Back to School Night!