



Mrs. Chang's Emojine Weekly

September 18, 2017, Issue 5

"Being ignorant is not so much a shame,
as being unwilling to learn." Benjamin Franklin

Important Dates

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

Sept. 27, 2017
4th Grade STEM Class Begins
(tentative, ends Oct. 31)

Sept. 27, 2017, 8:40 AM
Erin's Law Presentation

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

I hope students shared several highlights from last week with you! In **reading**, we continued to read The Tiger Rising to learn new reading skills: noticing repeated patterns (details/behaviors/objects), using precise words to describe a character, and paying attention to complex characters (having more than one side or act differently depending on circumstances). In **writing**, students drafted their narrative story on all parts of the story arc: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution; in the resolution, characters undergo a change, problems are resolved, and a lesson is learned. In **math**, we continued Chapter 2 on finding factors and greatest common factor (GCF) of 2 numbers, as well as multiples and least common multiples (LCM) of 2 numbers; I shared video tutorials on Schoology so you can see our methods (includes ladder methods). In **science**, students designed an investigation to see crabs' responses to ae variable groups came up with (light/dark, loud noise, confined space, changes in landform, and motion) and engaged in the scientific method; we also studied crow intelligence from a video. In **word study**, we covered Unit 1 Part 4 and took a test on Friday; students did well and will be recognized on the Pride Board! It was wonderful to see you at Back to School Night! We have 4 room moms (Mrs. Kinser, Mrs. Sizopoulos, Mrs. Mando, and Mrs. Pizzirusso). We are in the 3rd perspective in the **read aloud**, Wonder; students are using reading strategies to interpret characters and grow ideas about them! We are having phenomenal discussions about character motivations, struggles, and changes. Please ask to see your child's sketch-notes in Notability on their iPads for this read aloud!



Conversation Starters

What are reading signposts (6 signposts that prompt readers to stop and think)? What are they (see Schoology)? What makes a character complicated (acts different ways depending on circumstances)? What is GCF and LCM? What is the Ladder Method to find both? How do you know that crows are smart? What variable did you experiment on your crabs and how did they respond? What should be included in the resolution of your story? What punctuation marks are in dialogues?

This Week

- In **reading**, we continue on to the last third of the mentor text, The Tiger Rising. Students will learn to generate debatable ideas rich discussions, ground evidence back in the text for debate, study story elements beyond characters (setting, plot, important objects/images), and reading through many lenses.
- In **writing**, students will type their narrative stories on Google Doc and begin to revise and edit them. We will create a rubric together for students to use to publish this piece.
- In **math**, we will review methods to find GCF and LCM, work on problem solving questions, review for the chapter test, and take the test on Thursday. Please review videos on Schoology!
- In **science**, we will continue to learn about animal behaviors and habitats in texts; we will apply what we learned in this unit for a breakout activity (unlock 6 locks using clues/what we know); and review for a science test on Monday, 9/25 (open notebook test).
- In **word study**, we will cover Unit 2 (The Earth) Part 1 of Word Wisdom. Students can access vocabulary definitions on Quizlet. We will have a quiz on Friday on Schoology.
- In **technology**, we will use Padlet to discuss what we learned in the Animal Studies Unit, and share our crab investigations with parents on Seesaw.
- We will be using articles on Newsela as part of our morning work this week.