

Dear Parents,

Phonics/Penmanship:

Due to the very short week, we will not be introducing new word wall words. Please continue to practice all introduced words at home. Students should be able to read and spell each word in a snap!

Reading Workshop:

We have continued our fiction unit by studying story elements. Last week we ordered events sequentially by identifying them in the beginning, middle and end of a story. We also continued to practice retelling using a retelling tool, so that the story elements are included.

Writing

It has been so much fun to watch the kids explore their collections and to prove why they feel one is better than the rest. As writers, they have learned that it is important to give more than one reason for their opinion. It is also important to explain each reason with supporting details. Within the unit, the students have also learned to use comparisons and to quote experts to strengthen their point of view. **How you can help at home:** The kids will be writing real reviews soon. Start brainstorming topics with your child at home of places and things they know a lot about and could write a review on. Some ideas are movies like Frozen and Big Hero 6 or restaurants like Super Duper Weenie and Bear and Grill. They can also review places they've gone on vacation to like Disney or Atlantis. The topics are endless!

Math

We explored fractions in various ways. The students have been noticing the relationships between fractions. For example, students noticed that one whole is the same as two halves, four fourths, and eight eighths. These are equivalent fractions.

Science

We have been exploring and studying the Sun. The students participated in a science experiment to help them understand why the sun looks so small in the sky. We also learned what causes the day and night sky.

Respectfully yours,
Allison Cabezas
Debbie Jacobs
Maureen Rojee