

SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

3C News



COMMUNITY UPDATE

What a special week! Thank you so much for supporting our field trip to Camp Lincoln! It's the first time that we have taken third graders here, and it definitely won't be the last! What a valuable experience to help us build community as a class and as a whole third grade. I feel so lucky that our class was able to have this experience together, especially at the start of the year.

At Camp Lincoln, we played team building games as a whole third grade and teachers were included in that. We ran together, got silly together, and "saved" one another. Afterwards, we broke up into our classes to start rotations. Our first rotation was the outdoor ropes course. 3C participated in two activities where they had to work together

as a community in order to accomplish the challenges. They did it! For our second rotation, we went on a nature walk, did some writing, and made some tea by using ingredients found on the nature walk. The day went by too quickly.

When we got back to school, we had just enough time to reflect and share about our experiences during an Open Circle meeting. During that meeting, friends shared very kind, thoughtful, and specific compliments to one another about things that they had done for each other during the camp experience. I do feel like we have bonded more and that we can use this day's experience to continue our path of building community.

STUDENT WORK (for you to keep)

I'm sending home some math work that 3C completed this week that they did NOT glue into their notebooks or will not be saved for display. One of the pieces of work is an addition fact test. Please read about this in the math section of the newsletter for more information about it. Next week I'll start sending home journals. By now, they have some activities for you to be able to look at.

ACADEMICS

In reading:

* Independent reading time- Now that we are into several weeks of reading independently, some of our readers are naturally uncovering the need to choose different books. This directly fits into what we are studying as a class- just- right book choices.

* Just- Right Books: Most of these lessons for just-right books are a review for our readers. However, they are also learning that their reading interests and abilities change and grow over the course of the year. They are beginning to understand that although change can be hard, that it is a natural part of growing as a reader. Therefore, what they are choosing as favorite authors and series may not stay the same as last year. That is why we do lots of author studies and book hunts. This way we become more aware of what else is out there to read.

* They completed a just- right book activity. For this, they were asked to read their own books and then answer questions about what they had read. This was designed to have them think about their book to see if it truly is a just- right choice.

In Writing:

* Writers Notebooks- They wrote during every workshop! So far their longest uninterrupted time was 20 minutes, and that's really great for the beginning of the year. Lessons have focused on making the expectations clear for the writing that goes into the notebook and have also taught them to date and title each of their entries.

* I Am Poem: All of their drafts are done! The editing process is taking some time as I am meeting with each writer individually. Together, we use an editing checklist and make changes to the drafts. Once that is done, they type their final poems. That is also a process as they are learning how to type too. They're doing a great job.

* Word Study: They took a spelling assessment this week. It's an Elementary Spelling Inventory that all the elementary grades give at the start of the year. It lets us know where their spelling skills are at the beginning in order to inform our teaching. I'll share these during parent- teacher conferences.

* Editing: They continued to work with me to edit a shared piece of writing in order to become more aware of what to look for when editing and how to make the changes to the writing piece.

* In Math:

*Number Corner- They continued to work on identifying different models for multiplication, writing multiplication equations, and solving them. They also learned the terms: product, factors, and the meaning of multiplication. They played a game of SPUD. For this they counted by 10's and every time they landed on a multiple of 100, up to 1,000, they needed to remember to say SPUD.

*Addition Facts: This assessment is inside your child's communication folder. What I'd like for you to know is that the end of the term expectation for third grade is for them to correctly solve 21- 40 facts in five minutes. When you look at your child's test, you can see where they are currently at for meeting this goal. During class, we are working on addition fact review. They are getting practice in class, but this does change as the year progresses and we turn our focus on multiplication and division facts.

They reviewed several types of addition facts and color-coded an addition table that they will keep inside their math journals. They'll finish this up next week.

They played addition fact games in order to continue to work on fluency of those facts.

*Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream- They continued to work on these multiplication books throughout the week. Each day they spent about 10- 15 minutes on them before working on other math activities.

They watched a video that showed the meaning of multiplication and they also started making a math pendant to show an example of repeated addition and multiplication.

There is a separate math newsletter and helpful resource inside the Communication Folder that describes the first math unit for third grade. I hope you find it helpful.

In Science:

* Clouds: 3C conducted their first experiments this week. Take a peek at our 3C blog. I put up some photos of them in action. Although a simple lab, they enjoyed it. It also gave them the opportunity to learn how to write up a lab and follow the scientific method. Through the experiment, they learned how clouds form and how liquid water turns into gas.

* Water Cycle: After learning about the formation of clouds, they took a close look at the water cycle. They watched several short videos on the water cycle from BrainPop Jr, BrainPop, and Go Noodle. They will continue with this study next week.

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GET OUT YOUR CALENDARS

Haley LaPoint (meteorologist)
Visit- October 4

Fire Safety Presentation- October 11

Curriculum Night- October 11- Administration is sending home a message with further information.

READ ALOUD

We Don't Eat Our Classmates!

Quiet Please, Owen McPhee!

And also Stuart Goes to School as our chapter book read aloud.

BLOG UPDATE:

mrcoronato.edublogs.org

There are new photos up!
Take a peek.

EXTRAS:

We began working on an art and writing project that was inspired by the picture book, Adrian Simcox Does NOT Have a Horse. The pictures in this story play a significant role. 3C was extremely inspired by this, and as a result, they are working on creating their own artwork to use to inspire their own writings during writers workshop.