



## COMMUNITY UPDATE

Our weeks are typically busy. We are always working hard and being creative, but this week topped all of the others! Between decorating our classroom door, finishing our engineering challenges, and starting our weather forecast projects *and* our personal blogs, this week was certainly NOT boring. I continue to be amazed by our class.

During Open Circle times, we worked hard at creating our “upset monsters”. We talked about them, wrote about them, and actually began creating them. This way we can recognize what is happening to us when we get upset. Next week we will finish creating our “monsters” and learn what to do when they appear.

Our classroom blog has pictures posted of the engineering challenge. I’ll also try to get some photos of the classroom door on there before Friday afternoon!

I have some exciting news! 3C now has personal blogs set up!!! Thanks to Mrs. H, they are ready, and our writers began the process of posting during technology class. Their posts are still in draft form, but the plan is to have them ready for your viewing by next Friday! They are also going to post music recordings next week- a mini- project connected to fractions. Look for your child’s blog address next week! YAY! It is like an early holiday present.

Finally, I’d like to mention that we ended our week with a cotton ball celebration activity!

### STUDENT WORK & SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

On Friday, members of 3C filled out a “Something About Me” interview activity. I am sending these home inside Communication Folders for holiday project partners. This means, you are NOT getting your child’s responses, but instead the friend that your child is making a gift for. In case they need some more information, you may find these interviews helpful to use as the final stages are completed. There are some assignments inside the Communication Folder for you to review and keep.

#### In READING:

- \* Summarizing- They continued to learn how to summarize in a guided setting. By the end of the week, after having worked with my guidance, they worked with a partner to read a short story, fill out a summarizing graphic organizer, and finally write a summary paragraph. After having filled out the graphic organizer, I gave feedback, and then they used that before writing the final paragraph. Writing summaries is not easy, but they are trying hard and doing a great job. They will continue to practice next week.
- \* Metacognition- They continued to use thinking stems to write down thinking about independent reading books.
- \* Independent Reading: Conferences are focusing on going over the thinking that they are putting onto their thinking pages. That means individualized comprehension lessons are taking place during these conferences.

#### In WRITING:

- \* Narrative Writing- The are getting stronger at understanding plot and story elements. This week they glued narrative writing third grade checklists into their writer's notebooks and began to learn how to use them. They are working with me to identify evidence of the requirements from the checklist in a sample narrative. This work will continue into next week. So far we are studying narrative structure.

- \* Character Challenges: Through read alouds, they are pointing out main characters and the challenges that the characters need to overcome. Together we chart these to keep track. They have their own charts in their writer's notebooks. These lessons are to help them be able to create their own characters with challenges for them to overcome.

- \* Independent Writing: 3C absolutely loves writing during choice time, and that was especially true this week because they knew they were going to choose a piece from their writer's notebooks to post onto their new blogs. They began typing these pieces on Thursday and will continue to type them with the plan to publish them by next week.

- \* Spelling Preview and Word Lists: They met with me in small groups to make their new word lists. We also did a new word preview on Monday. Lists will be going home next week for homework. The test will be THURSDAY.

#### In MATH:

- \* Fractions: We began our fraction study that does continue throughout the rest of the year. As of right

now, fractions are happening during our number corner time as it connects to this month's calendar. They took a fraction pre- assessment to show what they can already do and what they already understand about fractions. Right now, they are reviewing numerator, denominator, partitioning, and that fractions are divided into equal parts. They are beginning to recognize and talk about equivalent fractions.

- \* Regrouping with Addition- At this point, all of 3C has been introduced to regrouping and has received guided practice. Some kiddos are beginning to use this strategy independently, but that is a handful. They will continue to practice and use base ten blocks to manipulate the strategy into next week, but slowly the base ten blocks will be removed so that they will only be using numbers. So far they are all excited to learn how to regroup as it is a lot quicker and takes up a lot less writing.
- \* Multiplication: For our classroom's holiday door decoration, 3C created snowman with multiplication. They began these last week and then finished them this week. For these snowman they had to measure, and represent a multiplication equation with repeated addition and an array. Their work with this demonstrated that they will benefit from continued work with arrays and repeated addition. This is totally okay as it is part of the third grade curriculum. It takes time and repeated practice to solidify these concepts.

#### In SCIENCE:

- \* STEM Challenge: They finished their flood challenge! Please check out our classroom's blog to find pictures of their process. You can see the houses they built and their reactions to their test results. They excel at these types of challenges.
- \* Weather Forecasts: They have been introduced to their new project and that is to create a weather forecast for a particular city that they chose. They will be working with a partner on this project and it will continue into January. There are many steps and responsibilities to it, and by the end they will have filmed a weather report. I will keep you posted on the process, and there will be an invite coming your way in January to see the final weather reports.

#### In OUR COMMUNITY:

- \* I thought it would be helpful to let you all know that we are working on expanding our friendships in here. Many friends are feeling like they have one friend to play with on the playground, and when that one friend is not in school, they feel lonely. I am trying to help them branch out and play games together that would include many friends.

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#### GET OUT YOUR CALENDARS

December 18- Holiday project due. Please send in wrapped. Thank you!

December 20- PAJAMA DAY! I'll also be showing some of The Polar Express movie and serving hot chocolate as a way for us to celebrate the holiday together.

December 21- Holiday share and 3C will be working on a holiday stem project

December 21- Early Release

December 24- January 1: Holiday Break, come back on January 2

#### **BLOG:**

[mrscoronato.edublogs.org](http://mrscoronato.edublogs.org)

Student blogs have started during school. Your child is in the process of posting a piece of writing that is currently in draft form. I plan to send home their blog addresses next week. Be on the look out! Thanks for waiting.