



Mrs. Granato's Classroom Connections



Reminders:

- Students were assigned the first step of the Author Study Fiction project. Please help your child to list their top 3 author choices. These should be authors of books they can complete within a week's period ("just right" books). They will also be asked to research 6 author questions next week. When they return from break, they will need their first book in class to begin the week's assignments.
- The children brought home their science books this weekend. These do not need to return to school until Tuesday. We had a Climate Lesson 1 review today and starred/underlined concepts to review in preparation of Tuesday's quiz.
- We will be attending Reconciliation on Wednesday morning with Fr. Matt. Students have been practicing the Act of Contrition at school and have been examining their conscience. Please encourage them to continue examining their conscience at home in preparation of this.
- We hope to see you on Thursday at 2:00 for the Christmas Concert!

What Did We Learn This Week?

Religion- In religion, students learned what sacraments and sacramentals are. These are events or objects that bring you closer to Jesus. We discussed that Jesus is present at all times through Mass and the sacraments. Students were also told the story of the Roman Officer and Jesus. The Roman Officer's servant was bedridden and sick, so the officer asked Jesus to heal him. He believed that Jesus could heal people from where he stands. When the officer's friends checked on his servant, he was healed! The power of faith was so strong!

Reading- Students studied point of view this week in reading class. They learned that this refers to how a story is told (first, second, and third person) as well as someone's opinion. We also discussed the importance of dialogue within a text. Dialogue helps the reader to better understand the characters and it moves the story along. Later in the week, students read two short stories by Wendi Silvano. They compared and contrasted the story elements within these two texts. This served as great preparation for our Author Study project as students will also be comparing and contrasting two texts by the same author with that project.

ELA- In Writer's Workshop, students finished their final drafts of their snowman stories which followed the format of the book *Snowmen at Night*. In English, students continued learning about verbs. Specifically, students learned the different verb tenses of *be*, how to use *have* and *has* as helping verbs, irregular verb forms, and contractions. Next week we will be reviewing Unit 3 and taking our unit assessment.

Math- We reviewed for chapter 5 and took our division test on Wednesday. Students were then introduced to the concept of area. They learned that they can find area by counting the square units or by using the formula $A=l \times w$. Next week, students will be introduced to the concept of perimeter. Area and perimeter will show up on the ASPIRE test in April, so we are happy to have this opportunity to introduce these concepts now. Students are catching on very quickly!

Science- This week in science, students learned the meaning of latitude. They discovered that there are many factors that affect a climate such as a location's latitude and elevation. In addition, students used their knowledge of climate to create and analyze bar graphs depicting average temperatures and precipitation for two locations. Finally, we concluded the week with a climate lesson 1 review. Students will be taking their lesson 1 quiz next week on Tuesday.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, Dec. 17

- Reading Log Due
- Spirit Wear Day

Tuesday, Dec. 18

- Fiction Unit Reading Test (Open Notes/Binder)
- Climate Lesson 1 Quiz

Wednesday, Dec. 19

- Second Step/Kind Campaign
- Reconciliation with Fr. Matt
- Christmas Party!
- Concert Rehearsal
- ELA Unit 3 Test (Verbs)
- Top 3 Author Picks Due

Thursday, Dec. 20

- Christmas Concert @ 2:00 pm in PG

Friday, Dec. 21

- Mass
- 11:30 am Dismissal
- Mrs. Granato's Last Day Before Maternity Leave
- Author Research Due

Christmas Info:

Our Christmas Party will take place the afternoon of Wednesday, December 19.

The Christmas Concert will be on Thursday, December 20 at 2:00 pm.