



Mrs. Granato's Classroom Connections



By Mrs. Meyer

Information

- Report Cards will be distributed on March 5th.

What Did We Learn This Week?

Religion: This week in religion, students reflected on Holy Week and Lent. These particular times are especially important to reflect on how we treat others. Students also discussed ways we can practice almsgiving, or when we give money to people who are poor. Students gave many ways to practice almsgiving! We also reflected on our Lenten season. Our art print discussed how Jesus spent 40 days and 40 nights in the desert resisting temptation from Satan.

Reading: Students had the wonderful opportunity of celebrating the national reading movement known as Read Across America Day. Please see below for a description of the event, description of the activities, and pictures! Also this week, students reviewed how writers of nonfiction use text features to help readers better understand a topic or subject. We looked at different types of nonfiction text features and discussed the purpose of each in preparation for Tuesday's quiz. Finally, students had a wonderful time comparing and contrasting the fiction and **nonfiction** genres using a beautiful literary nonfiction book called A Butterfly is Patient.

Language Arts: In English, students learned how good writers use commas to signal a pause to readers. Students learned that we especially use commas to separate a series of 3 or more words. In Writer's Workshop, we continued working on reflective narratives. Students wrote about a person they admire and why they admire them! We worked on breaking our writing into paragraphs as well as transitioning throughout our writing.

Math We finished our multiplication and division strategies chapter with a test this week. We will be starting our geometry chapter in our new math book next week! This will help prepare us for Aspire. Please remember to keep practicing math facts at home!

Science: We introduced our life cycle unit by looking at three different life cycles, a cats, tomato plant, and a butterfly. Students were able to draw comparisons and similarities between each. Students learned that an organism is a living thing, such as a plant or animal. We discussed

Social Studies: Students began learning about citizenship. We discussed how citizens can work for the **common good** and how they can **volunteer** to help their communities. We read about Paradise Valley, a community in Arizona where a group of students volunteered to help families in their community by raising money to build 10 houses for 10 families over 10 years. Students learned about **conflict**, **conflict resolution**, and **compromise**.

Upcoming Assessments & Due Dates

- **Thursday, March 7th-** Religion Unit 4 Test and Science Lesson 1 Quiz on Life Cycles
- **Friday, March 8th-** Reading Vocab Quiz, Spelling Unit #19 Quiz, and IXL Log Due.

Reminders

"Officer Friendly" from the Arlington Heights Police Department spoke to the third graders Thursday about safety in the community as well as on the internet. Please ask your student about the awesome experience!

Optional Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place on **Thursday, March 21**. These conferences are scheduled by **teacher or parent request**. I will send you an email if I feel we need to schedule a conference. If you would like to schedule a conference please email your request to admin@stjamessschoolah.org on or **before March 8**. **Appointments will be distributed on March 15**.

The third grade celebrated **Read Across America Day** on Friday, March 1st. This day is an annual reading awareness movement created by the National Education Association to celebrate our love of reading. The morning was spent rotating to the different third grade classrooms where students engaged in interactive read alouds and different reading activities.

[Click here for more information on Read Across America Day.](#)

- In Miss Castaldi's room, students read Oh the Places You'll Go and crafted a hot air balloon where students reflected and wrote about what they want to be when they grow up.
- With Mrs. Meyer, students read Hooray for Diffendoofer Day! and identified different types of figurative language within the text. Students created a Dr. Seuss hat as a visual representation of the different forms of alliteration, personification and similes they found.
- In Mrs. McEnerney's room, students read a story called The Other Side by Jacqueline Woodson about two girls who are different races who are divided by a fence. They often wonder why they cannot cross the fence but they grow to become friends by sitting on the fence. We engaged in a book talk afterwards and how students can make the world a kinder, better place.