

It has been a very busy time around Owen! We've had benchmarking, testing, yearbook cover voting, and a multitude of activities before and after school: Club Owen, Coding Club, Chess/Strategy Club, Student Council, and the Character Counts Cabinet. Students have been working very hard on their research and feature articles on body systems. In the new year, students reflected on 2016 and set goals for 2017. I'm confident that we will meet our goals in 2017!



Thanks for your support!

Announcements/ Reminders:

- Feb 9 Variety Show
 - Feb 14 Valentine's Day Exchange
 - Feb 20 No School- President's Day
 - Feb 21 Open House
 - Mar 2 No School-P/T Conferences
 - Mar 3 No School-Institute Day
 - Mar 4 PTA Spring Resale
- ☆ Be sure to check our class website daily
 - ☆ Please remember that missing work slips are sent home every other week, showing assignments that haven't been turned in yet.
 - ☆ Students received a note about valentines. Please do not purchase any valentines with food attached (due to student allergies).
 - ☆ Please make sure to send earbuds/headphones to school for your child in a plastic bag with their name on it (if you haven't already).
 - ☆ All in-school snacks should be peanut-free.

Reading: We have recently been reading and discussing many current events from our *Time for Kids* publications. The kids have had some wonderful discussions. We are starting to read several myths from [A Child's Guide to Greek Mythology](#) and will be reading/performing several readers theater plays in [Greek Myth Plays](#) in our unit on what shapes our world. The students are very excited to read and discuss Greek mythology! We will spend time discussing how people's views of the world, people, and events have shaped the world we live in today. Students continue to enjoy Daily 5 time. Many students are working on original compositions, listening to reading, or using the time to read books of their choice.

Word Study: At this point in the school year, students have learned 5 syllable types (closed, vc-e, r-controlled, open, and consonant-le) and have identified them in multisyllabic words, identified exceptions, and are learning other targeted patterns. Additionally, students are also learning homophones, homographs, and Latin roots. We are using stories, games, word sorts, and other activities to reinforce our learning.

Books We've Read: *Time for Kids, I Feel Better with a Frog in my Throat, and A Child's Guide to Greek Mythology,*

Writing: Students are currently working on their feature articles on body systems. Students are investigating their body system looking at: the parts of the system, their functions, diseases, and treatments and cures. Students are learning the elements of a feature article, how to cite sources, and how to use a computer to publish their final products in an appealing way.

Speaking & Listening: Students are working on historical fiction book talks. They should be practicing them prior to February 13th. Students speak in front of the class informally through different cooperative grouping strategies and activities.

Math (Accelerated): Students recently completed our unit on comparing, rounding, adding, and subtracting, fractions, whole numbers, mixed numbers, and decimals. Students are working on computations in the context of problem solving. We have been using Zearn (on the computer) as another way of presenting direct instruction and providing guided practice to students. Our current unit focuses on line plots, multiplying and dividing fractions, whole numbers, and mixed numbers as well as decimals. Our next unit will focus on geometry

Social Studies: We recently finished studying the Northeast. Students are currently learning about the economy, resources geography, people and events of the Southeast. We've also spent time learning about the civil rights and women's rights movements. Students will be creating various group projects. Students will participate in an Underground Railroad simulation and a Trail of Tears simulation as a part of the unit as well.

Science: We recently completed our study of rocks and minerals and will begin learning about the circulatory system and respiratory systems shortly. We will be learning about the various parts that make each system, how they function, and healthy habits to promote circulatory and respiratory health. We will be doing several "hands-on" labs to learn more about our hearts and will even be learning a rap to help us remember the parts and functions of the circulatory system. We will be learning about magnets and electricity after our current unit.

*** 2nd quarter report cards are available for viewing on home access. If you are having any problems accessing or navigating the site, please let me know. I am happy to help or get you in touch with someone that can help.

-Mr. Sabovik

