

The seasons are definitely changing as the holidays are just around the corner. We have been learning a lot about immigration and sharing about our cultures and traditions. Our study of economy, culminating with students creating businesses coming up quickly. I enjoyed speaking with all of you about your children at parent-teacher conferences. Our conversations were both informative and productive in helping each 4SS students reach their potential! I am looking forward to the many learning opportunities during the upcoming months.



Thanks for your support!

Announcements/Reminders:

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| Nov 20 Muffins with Moms | ☆ Be sure to check our class website daily! |
| Nov 23 Family Reading Night | ☆ Please remember that missing work slips area sent home every other |
| Dec 8 Winter Chorus Concert and Bake Sale | week, showing assignments that haven't been turned in yet. |
| Dec 18 Winter Party | ☆ All in school snacks should be peanut-free |

Reading: We recently finished reading Immigration (a non-fiction anchor text) and Journey to Ellis Island (a historical fiction book) in our unit on journeys. We spent time discussing how people and events have influenced our lives. We are also just beginning to reading Fever 1793 (a historical fiction book) and An American Plague (a nonfiction book) to further develop our study on how events of the past have impacted us. We continue working on recognizing features unique to both fiction and nonfiction texts and strategies to help with reading and understanding these texts. Students enjoy having choice in our classroom through Daily 5 activities.

Word Study: At this point in the school year, students have learned 3 syllable types (closed, vc-e, and open) and identified them in multisyllabic words, identified exceptions, and started learning other targeted patterns. Additionally, students are also learning homophones, homographs, and Latin roots. We continue to have guided instruction on both Monday and Tuesday, activities on Wednesday and Thursday, and our tests on Fridays.

Books We've Read: *Immigration, Journey to Ellis Island, Fever 1793, and An American Plague*

Writing: Students have recently completed their Statue of Liberty research projects. They had to create a poster (using the computer) that included important facts about the Statue of Liberty, why it's important to Americans, and several illustrations. Students recently wrote a letter to a person that inspires them. Students will also write a narrative piece about events and people that have had an impact on their lives. After that short writing piece, students will be researching and writing feature articles on people that have had an impact on the U.S. or the world.

Speaking & Listening: Students are working on realistic fiction book talks. They should be practicing them prior to Nov. 30th. Students speak in front of the class informally as well.

Math (Accelerated): We recently worked on estimating and dividing whole numbers and decimals. Students are currently working on (Unit 4) relating the powers of 10 to place value and understanding the relationship of the number of 0s in a product when multiplying by powers of 10 and the placement of the decimal when a number is multiplied or divided by a power of ten. We are also learning how to interpret numbers using scientific notation. In the near future, we will be learning about using parentheses and utilizing the order of operations. Our next unit will be on the properties of geometric solids and the different types of angles.. Please ask to see your child's WINK (What I Need to Know) sheet to see how these topics are applied. WINK sheets are also posted on the "Important Documents" page.

Social Studies: We recently finished our unit on the branches of government and cultures and traditions. Currently, we are working on learning about the economy of the United States. Our culminating activity will put each student in charge of his/her own business!

Science: We recently wrapped up our unit on environments. We finished with studying food chains and food webs and doing an owl pellet dissection. To support this unit, Willowbrook Wildlife Center brought some live birds of prey (including an owl and a hawk) to Owen on October 23rd.

As I reflect on the school year, I feel very fortunate to work with such a supportive parent community and am thankful for the opportunity to work with your children everyday.

-Mr. Sabovik

