



## Room 9 Weekly Newsletter

### Week of December 4 - 8, 2017



### Reading

This week's reading lessons included:

- paying attention to HOW authors get us to REACT to their stories (what makes a story happy, sad, surprising, etc.)
- reading fluently and expressively
- talking about books and our reactions to them with a reading partner
- retelling books we have listened to or read using sentence starters such as:

"In the beginning..."

"First..." "Then..."

"In the middle..."

"Next..." "After that..."

"At the end..."

"Finally..."

- thinking about the LESSON the author wants US to learn through the characters in their story

"The lesson the author is trying to teach us is ..."

### Math

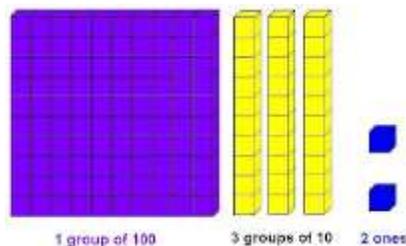
Our Math lessons have focused on:

- making a fun Pizza Fractions project with questions for other students in the school to answer
- reviewing skip counting by 5s and 2s through our "Pop" game that we enjoy so much!

(We spend time skip counting as readiness for multiplication and division in third grade!)

- introducing place value work as we build 2-digit numbers with tens and ones blocks and draw tens and ones blocks to represent 2-digit numbers
- end the week counting up our money (using our skip counting skills!) and visiting the classroom store 😊

These are place value blocks:



1 group of 100

3 groups of 10

2 ones

Hundreds

Tens

Ones



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#### Writing

In Writing, we have focused on:

- writing our own fiction stories as we create a version of The Mitten to display in our door decorating contest! I was impressed with the creativity the kids showed!
- trying to add dialogue and action to our pieces to make them more interesting for our readers!
- exploring our *COLLECTIONS* and beginning an Expert Writing Piece (nonfiction) about them

So far, we have created:

- a cover page that grabs the reader's interest
- a *TABLE OF CONTENTS* that shows the reader what they will learn in our books
- an *INTRODUCTION* that introduces our topics and what we will teach

\*\* Nonfiction books look and sound very different from personal narratives and fiction!

#### Science / Social Studies

We have continued our travels around the world to learn how different winter holidays are celebrated. This week, we journeyed to the following countries:

- Brazil - Christmas
- Germany - St. Nicholas Day  
We even wrote persuasive letters to convince St. Nicholas to visit us at OPS! Guess what?! HE CAME!!!
- Canada - Christmas
- Israel - Chanukah

We're having fun learning about how people celebrate around the world! We're also having fun learning where these countries are on a world map and what their various flags look like!

#### Announcements

\*\* December 14<sup>th</sup> is a HALF DAY of school and we'll dismiss at 11:30 a.m. Parent-teacher conferences will occur during the afternoon.

\*\* There is a Coffee and Conversation with the Principal on December 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

\*\* December 22<sup>nd</sup> is our Winter Spectacular Concert. Our class' parents should have received tickets to attend the 1:45 show. (A few of you with siblings may have received tickets to the 9:30 show instead.) We hope to see you then!

\*\* Field trip permission forms for our trip to the high school are due DECEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>. We'll also choose our 2 parent chaperones that day.