

Kindergarten Chronicles

March 22, 2019

In Reader's Workshop this week the students learned even more about how to be expert non-fiction readers. They learned that good readers can be like television reporters, to teach others about the information they have been gathering. When sharing new facts they learned in their books, they used attention grabbers like "breaking news... this just in... did you know..." to share that new information with their partners. Kindergarten students also learned that good readers come up with questions about a topic when partner reading. They learned that after listening to their partner, they might be left with questions about a topic. We discussed the importance of asking those questions to try and learn more from their partner. We also learned that good readers collect expert words about a topic. Students now know how important it is to notice "expert" words when reading and use those words when teaching others about your topic.

In Writer's Workshop students continued writing opinion pieces. Students are still LOVING writing letters to members of the community. They know if they see a problem their words can help fix it! During this unit students have learned that when you write a letter it's important to do 4 things. 1. Tell your opinion at the beginning of the letter. 2. Give LOTS of reasons why you feel this way. 3. Give a fix-it idea 4. Always be polite! Using these same steps, encourage your child to write letters at home as well. You will be blown away with the amazing work they produce.

In Foundations, the children continued to work on segmenting sounds in words in order to write them and blending sounds together when reading words. We also learned two new sight words this week: **day** and **did**. Please make sure you are practicing the new words with your child each week. At school we play games like "slap it" and "around the world" to practice knowing these words automatically. These are great games to play at home if you notice your child could use a little extra practice!

We began our final unit in math this week entitled, Ten Frames and Teen Numbers. This week children focused on subtraction both in an activity called Build and Remove and in multiple story problems. The students also played a new game called Race To the Sun where they used our fluency within five cards to determine how many spaces they would move forward or backwards. We set a copy of our fluency within five cards home last week. Please practice with your child. This is a common core skill and they will be assessed within the next few weeks.

This week we completed our current science unit. Ms. Kline's friends learned how sunlight warms a surface over time and how light warms darker surfaces more than paler surfaces. Mrs. Nestle's class ended our science unit observing the difference with both the garlic and radish plants that received water and did not receive water. They learned that plants need water to grow. They were all very excited to take home a plant from school. Enjoy! Mrs. Sisson's class finished their forces and motion unit by completing a movement hunt and comparing the forces they saw to the forces in their pinball machines. Students will be rotating to their third and final science unit for the rest of the school year.

Thursday, March 28th is our field trip to the Boston Children's Museum. Please return the field trip permission slip and \$13. If you are planning on chaperoning the cost is an additional \$13. We are planning on leaving the school no later than 9:00. Please plan on arriving no later than 8:45. Checks can be made out to the Highlands PAC. We will be eating lunch at the children's museum. Each student should pack a NUT FREE lunch in a disposable bag for the trip. Thank you!

As always, we wish for you a wonderful weekend with your family!

-The Kindergarten Team

+++Updates and reminders on the back!

High Frequency Words:

I, can, the, a, to, is, my, go, me, like, on, in, so, we, it, and, up, at, see, he, do, you, an, no, am, said, went, come, here, are, this, look, for, play, was, they, here, will, as, by, day, did

Updates and Reminders:

- Don't forget the school calendar as well as other important information can be found on the school website: danverspublicschools.org/Highlands.
- Thursday, March 28th- Field trip to the Boston Children's Museum.
- Wednesday, April 3- Early Release 1:15