Mrs. Watson’s Class News

May 20, 2016

Edition 14

**Wow! Only 19 more days left of this school year!** 

**The Learning Fair was a great success! The students were so excited to share with you all their recent school work.**

**Next Tuesday is the First Grade Music Program at 2:30 in the afternoon.**

**\*TEAM (Teaching, Educating and Mentoring)**

**Yesterday the second graders received the first of four sessions with a Canton Police Officer. This is a wonderful program designed to bring awareness to safety in our community.**

**Tuesday, May 24th**

First Grade Music Program

2:30 p.m. only!

**Monday, May 30th,**

Memorial Day – No School

**Friday, June 3rd**

Zoo Field Trip

**Friday, June, 10th**

Field Day

**Monday, June 13th**

2nd Grade Space Day

**Wednesday, May 15th**

First Grade Luau!

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Naomi Czapiga - May 17th

**Curriculum Connection:**

In **math**, second grade is currently working on unit 11. The students are learning and practicing how to make change by counting up. They have also practiced the trade-first subtraction algorithm. This unit also focuses on multiples of equals groups, division number models and they are introduced to multiplication facts of 2, 5, and 10. We are also continuing our “Mad Minutes” with both addition and subtraction facts. The students must continue to practice at home to improve their scores.

In addition, one of the math skills that the students have worked on throughout the year is writing (constructing) a response to various math problems. When students are able to solve a problem and then explain the steps they used to solve the problem it increases their understanding of the math concept. We also have great whole class discussions explaining our thinking and how we solve problems.

In **Science, the first graders are continuing their study of animal groups and life cycles. We are currently observing the lifecycle of real butterflies! They are currently in their chrysalis stage. We have discussed heredity and animal characteristics.**

Second graders are continuing their study of the sun, moon and earth. The culminating event for this will the June 13th Space Day! Information came home this week about it.

In **Guided Reading**, we continue to work on using comprehension strategies such as, questioning, connecting, inferring, story structure, and analyzing text graphic features of non-fiction books.

This week in Journey’s we read informational stories about seeds and plants. This was a great review and opportunity to share how our plants are doing at home.

Next week we are reading a fantasy story, *The Mysterious Tadpole* by Steven Kellogg. We will be completing an organizer for the story structure, which will include the characters, setting and the plot.

First graders, enjoyed reading *The Dot* by Peter Reynolds this week. They discussed how the character, Vashti changed during the story. We used a venn diagram to compare and contrast her changes. They also recalled the story elements. In addition, they looked at all the dots drawn by the character and decided which one they thought earned an award. They had to provide reason*s with details.*

*Next week, they will read What Can You Do?* An informational text that focuses on why it’s important to try your best.



In **writer’s workshop**, both grade levels are currently working on a short story about catching a butterfly. They have included many details to enhance their story, including a stong lead and a strong ending. As writer’s they are also working to edit and revise their pieces independently.

Both grade levels will focus on opinion and persuasive writing in their final Journey’s unit.