

NEWS FROM ROOM 15

The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today. - H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Dates to Remember

Mid-Year Testing

-Monday, January 11 -
Friday, January 22

Skating Party

-Monday, January 18

Hat for a Cause

-Wednesday, January 20

Staff Basketball Game

-Friday, January 22

Jenison Pink Out Game

-Saturday, February 6

Mid-Winter Break

-Wednesday, February 17 -
Friday, February 19

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Midyear Testing

This is the time of year that we take a short break to assess where we are in our academic goals for the year. We had our Dibels testing this past week and the upcoming week is our second Discovery Test. This is a good dipstick to check to see if we are progressing the way we should and also a good way to look to see where we are doing well as well as what concepts we need to spend extra time on.

Also, because of testing next week, we are going to be reviewing a variety of skills and not working on our Storytown curriculum. Because of that, there will be no spelling or vocabulary tests next week. We will instead be continuing to work on persuasive essays, a variety of grammar skills, and higher level reading skills as we read nonfiction.





Reading

We continued this week with our study of Author's Purpose. We read the story One Small Place in a Tree in our Storytown book. We also worked on Scholastic Core Clicks, which is an online reading activity that emphasizes reading closely and higher level thinking. Please keep reading at home, at least 20 minutes. This reading at home makes a HUGE difference in improvement in reading.

Writing

Our persuasive essays are looking great! We learned how to write an introduction, add paragraphs to provide evidence for our opinion statement, and end with a conclusion. We are learning how we start a new paragraph when we have a new idea. We are also working on how we use transitions between one paragraph and the other. We will be sending our persuasive essays to the class in Kansas when we finish them.

Math

We continued this week to work on the concept of area and how area relates to multiplication. We used area models to multiply two-digit by one-digit problems and we also tried some challenge two-digit by two-digit problems as well. We also learned how we can divide shapes into smaller rectangles to find the area of larger, more irregular shapes. We are working on story problems involving area to make sure we have a firm understanding of area before we move on to perimeter. **Remember to continue practicing multiplication facts for time tests on Thursdays.**

Science

We started this week with Science class with Mrs. Scholma. The first unit is a study of Earth Science. After learning about minerals, the next part of the unit involves looking at how the earth changes. This week we learned about the different ways erosion can change the earth through wind, ice, and water.

