

Ms. Ellis and Mrs. Redinbaugh's Class News

Language Update

This week we read a persuasive story called, Mr. Maxwell's Mouse. This is a story of a cat who goes to his favorite restaurant to celebrate his promotion at his job. He decides to live a little and order the house specialty, a live mouse, but this mouse has another agenda. He was eventually able to persuade the cat into putting on a blindfold and substitutes his tail for the mouse on the plate! The students used the characters action, thoughts, and feelings to identify character traits for the cat and mouse. They then compared these traits with a partner. Students also reviewed summarizing by using the somebody, wanted, but, so, then strategy. Ask your child to use this strategy at home after reading 😊

Reading Update

This week we wrapped up our study on Westward Expansion. We analyzed various photos and maps of the Trail of Tears and generated questions. We then researched the Trail of Tears and Indian Removal Act using primary documents and books to help us understand how Native Americans moved and the effects of the conflicts they endured. We ended our unit of study by using all that we learned about Westward Expansion and wrote down all the factors, forces, or reasons that caused people to move from one area to another.

Writing Update

This week we have been continuing our opinion persuasive writing. We worked on revising to make our piece sound better and editing to make our piece look better. Most students have started or completed publishing their final piece.

Math Update

The students learned about special quadrilaterals earlier this week. Then we reviewed what we had already learned about perimeter. We learned about area and how to determine the area of a shape. It is a struggle for third graders to keep area and perimeter separate in their minds. I teach them to add up the sides to find the perimeter of a shape and to multiply to find the area of quadrilaterals. We will continue to work on area and perimeter next week.

Writing Update

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Content Update

We are continuing to work with weather and climate. This week we have learned about why some places are always hot. We created our own climate maps in groups of three. This has been some great hands on learning and I think the students are having fun learning.

*Sit down and read this newsletter with your child. Discuss what is in the letter together. Ask questions 😊

Mark Your Calendar

- Remember there is NO school on Monday, January 28. It is a professional Development Day.