Class Newsletter May 15, 2015

Dear Parents and Families,

 Sadly, this was my last week with the kids and my last week at Champlain Elementary School. My husband and I are

 moving to Rochester, New York to be closer to family and friends as we begin to start our own family. Thank you so

 much for a fantastic year, I truly enjoyed working with you and your children and watching them grow. Students

 completed their end of the year assessments in math and literacy this week. I am incredibly pleased with the

 growth every student has made.  All their hard work really shows!  Way to go first graders!

This week our team worked on placement for next year, you will receive a letter in the mail indicating your child’s teacher for the 2015-16 school year by the end of May. I will be completing report cards and these will come home the last week of school.

Shannon McCarthy had a smooth transition into the classroom this week. She is quickly getting to know the students and learned the routines and expectations of our daily schedule.

**Mark your calendars for our final work celebration on Thursday, June 4th**. We are hoping to have parents volunteer to bring in food, drinks, or paper goods.  If this is something you are interested in please email Shannon at the address provided below. Thanks!

Here’s a summary of what we learned this week:

**Integrated Studies- Author Study - Readers’ Workshop** Our learning target is ***I can* *study an author to learn about their themes, characters, and writing style.* Writers’ Workshop** Our learning target is ***I can use an author’s craft to write my own story***. This week we conducted a mini author study on Mo Willems. We read Willems texts and examined his author’s craft. We noticed that he uses talking bubbles for his characters, draws his illustrations, and uses a lot of punctuation and different types of print. It was fun to compare Willems style to Leo Lionni’s and find that their themes are often about friendship. The class has done a really nice job finishing up their storyboard books influenced by Leo Lionni. They are excited to share their stories and collaging with you at the work celebration!

Up next in Reading we’ll be learning how to read poetry and in Writer we’ll practice writing our own poems. In Science the class will be studying the moon and its phases.

**Math –** Our Learning Target is, ***I can add two-digit numbers by using ‘friendly tens’.*** Students begin adding like units within pairs of two-digit numbers. They interchangeably added sets of two-digit numbers, where the ones digits produced a sum less than or equal to 10. For example, when adding 17 + 13, students decomposed the second addend into 10 and 3. They then added 10 to 17, making 27, and then added the remaining ones. The class also practiced adding ones to the first addend and then adding the remaining ten. This practice promotes flexible problem solving strategies and mental math.

  

**Word Work –** Our current *Fun*dations unit is: **Endings –ing** and **–ed.** Ex: **singing, jumping, dusted, hunted, blended**

Sight words we studied and quizzed this week: **high, every, really, world, don't**

Next week’s sight words**: are, which, aren’t, may, number**

**You can find all our sight words to date, as well as what’s coming up next at**

http://mrsgalushasfirstgrade.weebly.com/word-work.html

**Some other logistics:**

* **Final Work Celebration Thursday, June 4th**, first thing in the morning. Please email Shannon if you would like to bring something in.
* **School Wide Assembly- Talent Show!** Tuesday, May 19th, 8:25-9:15
* **Monday, May 25th NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day**

Please feel free to contact us anytime, and please check out our website!

Sincerely,

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