



Mrs. Shafer's Shenanigans

A publication of McMillan Elementary

Math, Reading, & Writing

In writing this week, students are in the editing and publishing phase of their small moment stories. Students got together with partners to edit each other's stories, looking specifically for: caps & ends, capitals for "I" and names, a catchy lead, strong ending, dialogue, and backward letters. Then students went through a checklist of their own before they began to add details to pictures and color. Next week they will be creating covers and sharing their books with the class.

In reading, we have been learning about characters and their traits. Traits are words that describe how the character acts or feels. For example: kind, sneaky, friendly, mean, sad, hard-working, charming, rude, or inconsiderate. We watched the digital text titled "For the Birds" by Pixar, which can be found on YouTube or my blog. Students looked at the different characters and came up with traits to describe them. Students then read their own books and jotted down their own character's traits on sticky notes. You can tell what a character's traits are by looking at their actions. If a character puts their head down and cries, then you could say they are sad. If the character laughs at someone and makes fun of them, you could say that character is a bully.

In math, we have been continuing to work on place and value. Place is where a digit is (ones, tens, hundreds) and value is how much that digit is worth. We played a few games this week where students had to roll a 10-sided die and determine where to place that digit to make the largest number—and they were not allowed to change it once it was written down. If they rolled a 9, obviously they would want to put that in the hundreds place. If they rolled a 0, 1, or 2 they would put that in the ones place. Digits 3–7 were the hardest. Students really had to think hard to decide which place to put that digit in to make the largest number. If I roll a 6, should I put it in the tens? Or the hundreds? Students also made Halloween paper chains. On one link they wrote a 3-digit number. Link #2—that number in expanded form. Link #3—the number in words. Link #4—that number drawn with base-10 blocks. Check them out during the Halloween party.

We are beginning science. Students learned that scientists make observations. We observed leaves using magnifying lenses.

Word Wall Words of the Week

before or wash been

Other News

Halloween Party

Our Halloween party will be on Oct. 31 around 11:00ish. We will be eating snacks first, then walking in the parade.

10:53—Students return from gym and get costumes on.

11:00ish—Snack time!

11:30ish—We will tag onto the end of the parade after it goes through our room.

11:50ish—Costumes off and get ready to go.

12:00—Dismissal

We could still use a couple more items for our party:

- Juice Boxes
- Snack of your choosing

Please let me know if you can send in either of these items.

Thanks!

Reeths-Puffer Schools

Volume 17, Issue 7

October 17, 2014

Special Dates to Remember:

- ☺ Oct. 21—Snow Plow Assembly
- ☺ Oct. 23—Behavior Assembly
- ☺ Oct. 31—Half Day—parties in AM
- ☺ Nov. 3—Adopt-a-Reader training for students
- ☺ Dec. 5—Children's Theatre Production @ H.S.



Remember to return both library books on Wednesday!

Reading logs are due on Fridays.