

UPDATE ON GRADES 3-5



DID SOMEBODY SAY PIE? 5TH GRADER, STEVEN, CREATES A PIE CHART (LEFT)

JEREMIAH'S SMILE SHOWS JUST HOW MUCH HE ENJOYS LEARNING IN 3RD GRADE (ABOVE)

Off and Running!

I can often hear the students to the left of my office as they work in groups. The excitement coming from the classroom is music to my ears. Students were thrilled the first day using the classroom responders and I was equally excited to come and watch

as they used this new technology that will assist the teacher in instruction. The third graders are doing well in transitioning to being on the top floor. Mrs. Pirilli's apple curtains give the classroom a homey feel and I am sure that she has made them at ease.

Each time I walk into the classrooms, the children are smiling, working hard, and are quick to share their work and explain what they are doing. Enjoy reading about their adventures. Mrs. Wisk



3RD GRADERS, KATIE AND SAMANTHA, KNOW THE ANSWER!



5TH GRADER, MADISON, IS PROUD OF HER BAR CHART.



4TH GRADER, ROBERT, PLAYS THE YARN GAME IN ILA

Mrs. Taylor's News

Students in the 4th and 5th grades have been enjoying using Renaissance Responders as part of their classroom participation. The 4th grade recently used the responders to take a test using Accetest Software. Data indicated that the class had mastered its knowledge of reading strategies!

Students in the 5th grade have been learning about the climate and physical features of Canada, and have been using their notes and internet research to design travel brochures for this country. They enjoy using learning games such as

NEW TECHNOLOGY SHOWS 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS THEY HAVE MASTERED KNOWLEDGE OF READING STRATEGIES.

riddle strips to memorize their vocabulary and challenge one another in a word's meaning.

In Religion, the 5th graders are designing plays in Religion class which reflect the principles of stewardship. They have also made angels to commemorate loved ones who have passed on, and these will be displayed year-round at our Religion table. Students have also been making daily prayer requests for the "Star Box," in which we list our intentions for loved ones, then say prayers for these requests at the end of class every day.

Students have been enjoying flexible grouping for classroom projects, which helps children combine their unique learning styles and talents while also learning how to work together. Parents who have extra throw rugs, rug remnants, or bean bag chairs are welcome to donate these to the classroom so that students can enjoy comfortable group seating when they meet to work. Students may also bring their own individual "sit-upons" for this purpose. Mrs. Taylor will be donating a yin-yang carpet to the class!



MADISON AND GINA SHOW OFF THEIR TRAVEL BROCHURE

RENAISSANCE RESPONDERS IN ACTION



LAUREN HAS FUN PRACTICING WITH HER RESPONDER



CHRISTINA GIVES HER ANSWER



MRS. TAYLOR INSTRUCTS CHRISTIAN ON HOW TO USE A RESPONDER

Mrs. Sikora's Corner

4th and 5th Graders have been learning about lab safety, science tools, and the steps of the Scientific Method in Science class. They have had some hands-on experience with the tools, particularly measuring devices like pan balances, spring scales, and tape measures. They will also be doing some experiments to help them understand the scientific concepts. So far, their inquisitive young minds have been grasping these new ideas and applying them to their own real-life situations.

STUDENTS ARE GRASPING IDEAS AND APPLYING THEM TO THEIR OWN REAL-LIFE SITUATIONS.

5th grade Math students have reviewed place value and have moved on to estimation, along with the 4 basic math operations. Flash card drills help to reinforce the Basic Facts. I encourage all students to continue studying their times tables, since they will depend heavily on them this year.

4th graders are also learning about place value. They have been using the computer program Study Island to reinforce classroom learning.

Students are also using Renaissance Responders to reflect their knowledge of these concepts. The kids get excited



FUTURE SCIENTIST AT WORK

Michael and Ashley perform a hands-on experiment.



LEARNING IN A "FLASH"

Lauren quizzes her classmates using flash cards to test their knowledge of times tables.



COMPUTER PROGRAMS MAKE LEARNING FUN

Tristan practices place value with Study Island.

Mrs. Pirilli's Place

Hooray! We are having so much fun in third grade. The children have acclimated themselves into our class routine. They have learned to check-in in the morning, choose their lunch order, unpack and then get right to work. Yes, I did say work. Although, it might sound like a grueling routine, we do manage to squeeze a couple of cool things in each day.

Let's begin with Math. We learned place value. One way we accomplished this was by playing a tossing game. The children had to match the number given to them with colored coordinated blocks. For instance, the place value blocks range from ones to ten thousands. Each place value stood for a different color. After given a number, each child had to attempt to toss the blocks in the correct place value container using the correct colored block. We also concentrated on greater, less than and equal to. We made a human number line and a huge greater than, less than sign, which helped assist the visual learning process. This was part of a great kinesthetic lesson. The children love getting up out of their seats and having fun with their peers. Calendar Math seems to be working out well. All the children participate, which is helping each child focus on various types of mathematical problems.

**WE ARE USING
TECHNIQUES DESIGNED
FOR VISUAL LEARNERS.**

In Language Arts, the children are reading, writing and sharing their work. They are now familiar with descriptive writing and using colorful words. In addition, they love writing narratives, especially when we begin with the chant:

Characters, Setting, Problem and Solution...that's what a good story has!

In Science, we had our first lab experiment which consisted of measuring bubbles. We all observed the measurement of the soap and water solution. Then they blew bubbles using straws and completed the lab assignment by filling in the information. Oh, what fun they had! Thank goodness they all heeded my warning about blowing out when performing this experiment.

In Social Studies, we discovered that we should Never, Eat, Soggy, Waffles. For most of us who don't know that acronym, it means North, South, East, West. We also covered what a compass rose is and how to use a map scale. Moreover, we had our class mascot, which is a puppet named Lea. Lea helped them figure out Cardinal and Intermediate directions. In addition, we spent a great deal of time discussing how we can benefit by helping others in our community.

This brings us to our first field trip. Last Friday, we visited the Barn of the Poorest of Poor. Most of children enjoyed the bus ride and just sitting, chatting and singing with the eight graders. When we arrived, the children were greeted by

3RD GRADE SUBJECT MATTER



MATH LESSONS
ON THE MOVE



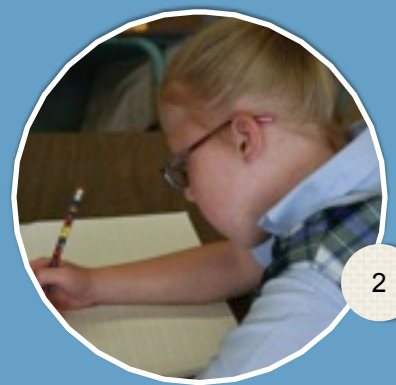
SCIENCE IS BUBBLING
WITH ACTIVITY



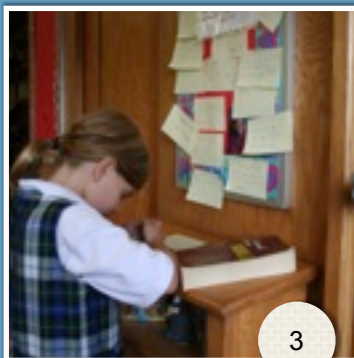
SHARING OUR WRITING
IN LANGUAGE ARTS



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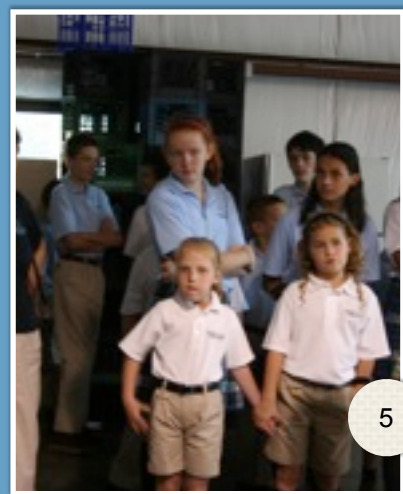
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3



4



5

THIRD GRADE DEMONSTRATES THEIR FAITH IN ACTION

1. 3RD GRADE WITH THEIR BUDDIES AT BARN FOR THE POOREST OF THE POOR
2. KIM WORKS ON A CARD FOR MAYA
3. PRAYER IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR DAY
4. JOE PINS UP A PETITION
5. 3RD GRADERS ON A FIELD TRIP

volunteers, who explained how even third graders would be able to assist those who are most in need. Many children chimed in by asking very interesting questions.

Meanwhile back at school, during various times of the day, I will notice a child at our prayer center. They usually say a prayer after first pinning up their petition. There are a number of petitions up there which we all pray for together. I love our prayer center. It really completes our room. Overall, the children are growing, thriving and apparently happy. Thank you all for being so very supportive.



MEET LEA, THE THIRD GRADE MASCOT



Mother Teresa
Regional School