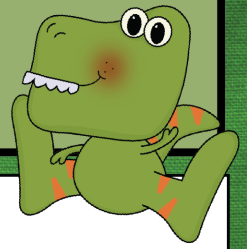


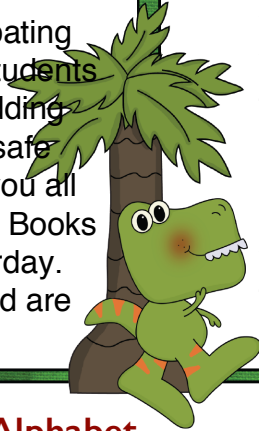
Mrs. Donovan's Weekly News

January 18, 2019



Greetings from our classroom...

It is amazing that we are finally anticipating our first snowstorm of the year. The students are anxious to get outside and go sledding or build snowmen. I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable long weekend. I hope you all have had a chance to read the Family Books that the students brought home yesterday. They worked so hard to write them and are very proud to be real authors now!



Having Fun with Math!

We practiced teen numbers this week. We decided that the trickiest ones are those that do not sound like the number + teen, like thirteen and fifteen. We also recalled shape names and made certain shapes from other shapes. Did you know you could make a hexagon by putting together two trapezoids or 1 trapezoid and 3 triangles?

Counting Down the Rest of the Alphabet...

This week in *Foundations* we worked with the letters V and W. The students realized right away as we practiced writing the letters that if you can form a v, you can form a w. ☺ We made a beautiful vase class book this week as well as funny vultures, and the students completed pattern block puzzles for both v and w animals. In two weeks, we will have studied the entire alphabet and the students are doing such a good job retaining their letters and sounds. We are preparing to move our focus on to blending sounds into words. It is evident in students' writing in particular that they are on their way to doing that already. They are doing a wonderful job of stretching out the sounds they hear when writing words.



Welcome to Fall!

The students had a great time on Thursday at our all-school assembly with the Crocodile River Band. They performed beautiful songs representing the sounds of many countries from around the world. There was a lot of dancing in the seats and some students even got to shake instruments to the beat! Many thanks to the PTG for this enjoyable enrichment program!

Celebrating MLK this week...

Yesterday we read a story entitled *Happy Birthday, Martin Luther King Jr.* We talked about some of the important things that Dr. King worked to do in our country, framed in the context of trying to make sure that everyone was treated fairly, which is a concept the students understand. We decided that every time we do something nice for someone or include a friend when we play, that we are honoring his memory.

Reminders for Next Week:

In discussing how many days we have been in school, we realized this week that on Tuesday (January 22) the number of days we have been in school will be the same as the number of days we have left – 90. While we will certainly have fun with Day 90, also known as Halfway Day here at Willard, unlike the upper grades that celebrate in a big way, we will save our primary celebration for 100 Day. More information will follow about 100 Day next week. Stay tuned. ☺

