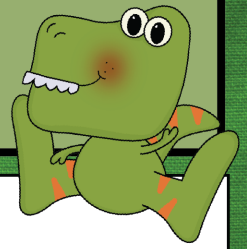


# Mrs. Donovan's Weekly News

December 14, 2018



## Greetings from our classroom...

The countdown to winter vacation continues. Students are getting really excited for all of the festivities to come. In particular, we are looking forward to our gingerbread house decorating next Thursday and Pajama Day on Friday. We spent this week reading gingerbread stories and doing many literacy and math-related activities and are looking forward to more this next week. 😊



## Having Fun with Math!

We spent time this week working on number recognition and number sense for 1-10. We learned that there are many ways to show a number. For example, whether we use 4 popsicle sticks, 4 fingers, the number 4, or a drawing of 4 apples, they all show 4. We also formed a human number line with the numbers 1-10. I was able to hand each student a number and they worked together to put themselves in the right order.

## Two New Letters plus Gingerbread Stories all week...

Our letters of the week were "P" and "J." We will be working with these letters next week as well since we are also doing lots of gingerbread activities. The students made penguins and did a P&B sort. They did an excellent job working independently overall to hear the different sounds P and B make. After reading several gingerbread stories, we spent time comparing and contrasting important elements of the stories, including characters and the endings of each. One fun activity was making life-sized gingerbread people. The students worked in teams of 3 to create a giant Gingerbread Friend. We were really impressed with how well the teams cooperated and worked together. I will send along pictures of the final projects this week.



## Buddies

On Tuesday, our buddies invited us up to their third grade classroom to see all of the amazing projects they created during their Native American unit. The third graders did a wonderful job explaining their work. There were dioramas, posters and board games! Our students, in turn, were an excellent audience. We then got to go outside together for a shared recess! 😊

## Writing Workshop Update

The students have done amazing work in Writing Workshop this month. This week they received their own folders and we talked about putting finished work on one side and the pieces that are still in process on the other side. They are doing a great job of getting right to work, drawing pencil sketches, writing words to go along with their drawing and then adding color to complete each piece. They have really become a group of writers!

## Reminders for Next Week:

Thank you so much to everyone who signed up to send in an optional donation for our gingerbread house project next week. All of the items have been claimed; we truly appreciate everyone's generosity. Here is the link to Sign up Genius if anyone needs a reminder as to what items they signed up to bring. All items should be sent in by this Monday, December 17th. Thank you again!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d45aead2fa1f58-gingerbread2>

