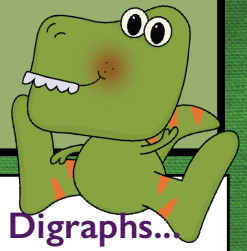


# Mrs. Donovan's Weekly News

May 10, 2019



## Greetings from our classroom...

Ellen and I were overwhelmed this week by the wonderful gifts, treats and thoughtful notes we received for Teacher Appreciation Week! It was so nice of you all and we are very grateful. Thank you so much – we feel blessed every day to be teaching your children!

Thank you as well to everyone who donated food to the fifth grade food drive. Our class did an amazing job! 😊



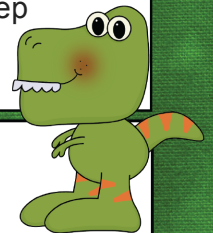
## Continuing Our Work with Digraphs...

The students are now quite adept at tapping out the sounds in three letter words. This week we tapped out sounds for words with four letters but still only three sounds. They are loving the challenge of recognizing and stretching out digraph sounds such as th, ch, sh, wh and ck. Some students realized that there are actually some five letter words with only three sounds as well – wow!

## Having Fun with Math!

This week we created a new class book containing number stories. Each student wrote his/her own number story as an equation and in words and then illustrated the story as well. They did a wonderful job designing their own joining and take away stories.

We also started to keep track of the number of bottle caps we have collected so far. Thanks to everyone who has contributed. We had 70 bottle caps today! Students used several counting skills, including counting by ones, tens and counting on from higher numbers in order to keep track of our collection. Who knows how high the amount will be in a few weeks?



## Our Trip to the STEAM Lab

The students did such a great job on Monday when we made our first ever visit to the STEAM Lab at Ripley. They worked in teams to create tall towers and then ramps and tracks. Next each student got to create his/her own firefly. You should have seen how our classroom mailboxes lit up like it was holiday season. 😊 The students really worked well together, used strategies and problem-solved.

## Communities Unit Update

We had a wonderful discussion this week on why the people in our community work and where we all do work, including at home, school and jobs. All of the students shared ways that they do work such as making their beds, cleaning their rooms (sometimes!) and doing their best learning at school. We also talked about the important difference between things we Need and things that we want. They were very thoughtful.

## Reminders for Next Week:

Thanks to everyone for returning the signed permission forms for our field trip to Great Meadow on Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. It should be a fun morning.

Happy Mother's Day to all of the wonderful moms in our classroom. The students created such beautiful gifts and cards this week, but shhhhh – it is a secret until they are ready to give them sometime this weekend. Please enjoy them and have a lovely weekend with your families. 😊

