



October 25, 2019

Dear Parents,

Mid-Trimester Progress Reports and our Slater Mills Field Trip Permission Slip were sent home on Friday. Please sign and return these forms to school with your child at your earliest convenience.

In Language Arts this week, our focus was on reviewing the application of several Close Reading strategies. After reading and discussing The Widow's Broom, written by Chris Van Allsburg, students worked on identifying cause & effect relationships, summarizing the main idea of a passage, comparing and contrasting information, and using context clues to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words. As a class, students brainstormed different character traits represented by the magical broom in this story. Students then listened to The Widow's Broom read aloud again and recorded text evidence that supported one of the broom's specific traits. After collaborating with partners, students then used their notes to write a character analysis paragraph describing the magical broom. As a class, with partners, and independently, students also practiced combining sentences creating compound and complex sentences this week.

In Math, we completed our Metric Conversion Unit this week. At the beginning of the week, our focus was on converting metric units of capacity to smaller units. Students were also required to apply this skill to the addition and subtraction of various mixed units of capacity throughout the week. Likewise, students applied these skills to several real-world multi-step story problem situations at the end of the week.

In Social Studies, students analyzed an elevation map of The United States. Students were able to successfully draw conclusions about the direction in which specific rivers flow based on the elevation of the land on which they are located. As we read about a family traveling from the east to the west coast of the United States, we also created a physical map of the continental United States together, labeling the various landforms found in the United States. To help students

prepare for the geography quiz that was given on Friday, students were assigned Quizlet practice, a customized online game tool, throughout the week.

Directions for our first in-class collaborative research project were also introduced this week. For this project, each group of students will be assigned a different Rhode Island city to research. After researching specific topics and taking notes together, each student in the group will be assigned one of the topics to investigate further. Students will then record more detailed notes for a focused paragraph on their assigned topic. Each focused paragraph will then be typed and included as one of the panels on the group's City Brochure. Each panel will also include a computer-generated or hand-drawn graphic.

In Science, we began discussing how energy is transferred through the collision of objects. Next week, we will explore why a ball bounces and how energy can be transferred through a bouncing ball.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at jalviano@cpsed.net.

Have a great weekend!
Mrs. Alviano

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