

The November Recap



Readsboro Central School November 2024

November seemed to have a lot of days away from school—but we made them count while we were here! We had Ben Boyd visit us with a snowplow on November 7. It has our school name and ‘Snow Kitten,’ named by one of our students. We held our annual Veterans Day and celebration in conjunction with the Readsboro Community Library where we recognized local Veterans for their service. We celebrated World Kindness Day, where we talked about various ways we are kind throughout the day and at home! And, we spent a lot of time talking about Thanksgiving and those things for which we are thankful!

Eagle Feathers continue to be in place for students going above and beyond our normal expectations. We are especially recognizing students who are exhibiting the Portrait of Student Success competencies (Communication, Adaptability, Empathy, Collaboration, Responsibility, Critical Thinking). The students earning Eagle Feathers in the month of November were: Logan, Paisley, Cooper, Kyle, Cameron, Sawyer, Makiya, Jon, Laird, Chayton, Jackson, Hoyt, Flint, Seth, Oaklee, Jack, and Bryan!

Ms. R’s Pre-K and Kindergarten:

In November, PK/K students have been working on the following:

***In Math**, students started a unit on shapes. We learned the difference between flat and solid shapes, including their features such as corners, sides, open vs. closed, curves, faces, and edges. We also learned that any shape with 6 corners and 6 sides are considered hexagons, and squares are a special kind of rectangle. Additionally we investigated what flat shapes can be made using the faces of solid shapes in playdough.

***In Science** we continue to engage in lessons about our adopted calf Bonnie from Addison, VT through the Discover Dairy online learning program! This past month we learned about the 7 breeds of cows and a fact about each type. We then chose our favorite kind of cow! Did you know that Red

Holsteins have only been around since the 1960's? Students are now taking turns bringing Bonnie home over the weekend to illustrate and write about their adventures. Our Science connection is learning about living animals and their care.

***In Social Studies** we started a unit on "Long Ago and Today". We watched a video about items used long ago and items used today and discussed the differences in the items. For example, long ago people cooked over fires using big pots. Today we use stoves. Long ago people traveled by horse and buggy. Today people can ride in cars, buses, and planes. We are also conducting interviews of our families and also teachers in the school about what life was like for them in the past, and students are answering questions about what life is like for themselves in the present. We will review these interviews during Social Studies time.

***In Reading,** students practiced reading in one of 3 ways (read the pictures, read the words, and remember the story) during IDR time (Independent Reading Time) and then they shared their favorite parts of their books with their partners. They also took turns pointing to the words in our poem "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" while the class read the poem chorally. Additionally, the students are all practicing their reading group books daily.

***In Writing,** students heard the story "Soup Day" (about a girl who likes to make soup with her mom) and then they wrote about something they like to do with a special person. The class also wrote and illustrated about their favorite parts of 2 stories read during reading time: The Big Umbrella and Josie's Lost Tooth. Preschoolers dictate words for writing (but can try to work on more independent writing skills). Kindergartners work on using our word wall and on sounding out words. Both groups add illustrations to their writing pieces.

Coming in December: We will learn about, and celebrate, Holidays Around the World as part of our Social Studies standards connected to learning about people and their cultures/traditions.

Mrs. Tatro's 1st and 2nd Grade:

In November, *First and Second Grade Students have been working on the following:*

In Literature, students have been listening to stories with a theme of kindness and are learning to retell the story by sequencing events in order by what happens first, next, then and last. Students learned about prefix re- and in- and suffix -y and -ing, syllables and antonyms. Four new vocabulary words are introduced weekly, twelve new vocabulary words were introduced this month.

Writing, Students continue to review letter formation and when to use upper case letters. In our new *Being a Writer* curriculum students listen to a story and base their writing on the story's subject. This month they wrote about what they love to do, how they can be kind and what they can do! They continue to perfect their

sentence structure, with a capital letter at the beginning and a stop sign at the end. They are learning to write in full, complete sentences..

In Math, Grade one learned about counting on and all the ways to break down a number into number sentences, example: all the ways to make 10, $0+10 = 10$, $1+9=10$, $2+8=10$, etc, and whether or not a math sentence is true or false which means equal or not equal. Grade one is approaching the end of Unit 1. Grade two learned about using tens as a benchmark number when adding and subtracting, they practiced subtraction in word problems and recently began to work with place value: hundreds, tens and ones. Grade two also had a mid-unit test.

In Social Studies, students learned that it was a Presidential Election Year and that it may be a historical election if the first woman elected became President. Students also learned about Veterans Day and made cards for local Veterans and attended the Readsboro Veteran's Day Celebration. They also are learning about the First Thanksgiving and life as a Pilgrim.

In Science, we continue to take daily indoor and outdoor temperatures and monitor the weather. We also learned about trees that do not lose their leaves in the Fall.

Social-Emotional, students have been listening to stories about kindness and courage and this week the Holiday of Thanksgiving and being thankful.

Coming in December: We will continue to write with our new writing program, We will begin Unit 4 In our Reading Program. In Math Students will be starting Unit 2 and in Social Studies students will learn about December Holidays.

Ms. Bolio's 3rd and 4th Grade:

Literacy:

We finished up our unit on the Navajo Code Talkers. We continued to discuss the different people and cultures and tried to understand what some of these people have gone through. We started a new unit and a new book called "*Dragons in a Bag,*" *we all love it so far!* We have continued practicing different ways to check our thinking. This includes "stop and ask questions", using a "double entry journal" and "ways we think about our reading". We learned some new thinking tools as well such as two different types of "character webs", as well as "a

story arc” which describes the orientation, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution. We have also worked on making and confirming predictions, and discussing story elements (character, setting, plot, problem or challenge and theme). We make inferences and visualize what we are reading to deepen our understanding. We have added to our “reading strategies” chart the following: determining importance, summarizing and synthesizing. The goal is to generate independent thinking about what they are reading.

Word study: We have been learning about more suffixes and prefixes. Suffixes -en Along with practicing morphemic word analysis. Guided spelling practice and learning about homophones has been fun and exciting also.

Book Groups: Have been going great! Students seem to be settling into the book sets nicely. My group has been discussing a lot about text-to-self connections.

Math: We have continued working on adding and subtracting multi digit numbers just for practice on occasion. We have been working really hard to master our multiplication facts and I am so proud of how far some of us have come. We have also started flipping some of those questions to division and the kids are excited about that! We will continue to do practice daily. We have also been using Eureka Math squared to learn grade level material which includes skip counting, place value and creating arrays for third grade. In third grade we are looking at fact families and how multiplication and division are connected. In fourth grade we are working on place value and the different ways to show or write numbers. We have begun our tier two math intervention to focus on what students need the most support in.

Writing: Students seem to really like the writing program so far and so do I. It gets them thinking and writing about things in a different way. It also provides them with different prompts or allows them to write about whatever they want to or go back to a piece they have already started. We continue to work on writing complete sentences, creating paragraphs, using punctuation appropriately, and adding as much detail as possible to our writing pieces. We have completed publishing their first writing pieces of the year. We have continued to practice cursive writing as well. The kids think this is cool, most of the time. We will continue with that and typing practice.

Social Studies: We are reviewing the states, their capitals and fun facts about each. After we learn all of the states the kids will have a sheet that will be filled with Visa Stamps for each state that we learned about. We will also discuss regions and then go on to learn about world geography. In addition we have been learning about the history of different people through our literacy program, which has been great.

Science: We continue learning about animal adaptations.

Social Emotional: We have been focused on community building, working together, being kind to one another, and respecting others feelings and opinions. We have also worked a lot on

positivity in an attempt to make each day a great day and learning experience for all. We have a great team this year in our class!

Coming in December:

In literacy, we will finish unit three in Being a Reader and move on to unit four if time allows. We will focus on fiction. We will discuss the author's purpose and develop an understanding of narrative story structure. We will continue to discuss story elements including character, plot, setting, problem or challenge and theme. Students will learn how to write a summary about a theme in a story that we will read.

In word study we will continue learning about word parts, prefixes, suffixes and roots. We will also discuss figurative language like similes and metaphors in poetry. They will also write their own poems.

In writing we will move on to unit 3 of the Being a Writer program which will focus on Personal Narratives. Students will continue to share edited pieces with their class in the Author's Chair. We will also practice conferring with partners about their writing pieces.

In math, we will continue on with mastering multiplication and division facts and working with larger numbers. As well as grade related work in our math program.

In Science we will learn about Earth's Features and Processes. Which will go great with our social studies theme which will continue to be US Geography and then World Geography.

As always we will continue working together, being positive, respectful and kind to one another as a continued social and emotional practice.

Ms. Whelpley's 5th and 6th Grade:

In ELA students have been working on different parts of speech as well as sentence structure. They have been writing daily. Students have been working on the revision and editing process.

Students have started book clubs with several different teachers involved. Students have also begun the SIPPS phonics curriculum with Ms Ashley.

In Math students have been working on core skills such as long division. Students have been attending Math Groups Monday, Tuesday, and Friday with myself and Ms Ashley. We have started to work on metric system conversions as well.

In Social Studies we have used several anchor scenarios to continue our work on what it means to be a good school citizen. Continuing into December we will be Reading “Brown Girl Dreaming” as an anchor text.

In Science we have been working on our Biology Unit on animal traits as well as begun work on evolutionary Science as well as the Scientific Method. Students undertook engineering challenges as well.

Mr. Ross’ Classes in the Library

Pre-K and Kindergarten

We started off with library rules and procedures. After that, we worked through parts of a book and book care. Right now, we’re working through story details and sequencing. We read a book together every day.

Grades 1 and 2

Our first lesson was with setting library expectations and procedures. Next, we explored the parts of a book, character identification, and story elements of fiction and nonfiction. We’re currently looking at sight words, blends, moral of a story, story order, and characterization. We read a book every class and use the story as a means to learn about books.

Grades 3 and Four

We began the year with setting library rules and expectations. We followed that up with story elements, main idea, and theme. We’ve been telling stories using figurative language, and will use a thesaurus and touch on some online encyclopedia skills by the end of November. Reading short stories has been an integral part of library instruction.

Grades Five and Six

Despite being the most experienced classes in the library, we still had to review expectations and set a few rules for the library. Fiction versus nonfiction, main ideas, fact versus opinion, and source credibility and website evaluation have been hot topics in the library lately. Short stories are used regularly for illustrating information literacy concepts.

Upcoming Dates to Know:

11/25-11/26/24-No School for Teacher Development

11/27-11/29/24-No School for November Break

12/3/24-School Board Meeting (6:00)

12/11/24-Winter Concert! (6:00)