

# Extra, Extra Read All About Room 210 News

Edition 4

October 15, 2018



## Spotlight on our Learning

- Continuing our read aloud book: A Boy Called BAT. We are identifying plot features, discussing understandings, identifying vocabulary and making predictions.
- Started our individual reading log sheets for finished books. We are working towards a 25+ goal for new and diverse books read by the end of 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Books read at home and school count towards this total. We are keeping this log in our reading folder.
- Read together the book A Quiet Place by Douglas Wood. We wrote our own idea of a quiet place borrowing the style of the author. Each student will get a copy of our class created book to take home this week.
- Introduced to our Scholastic News classroom magazine and the online resources that we'll access as a class through Google Classroom assignments. One group read all the articles and completed a Google Classroom "Quiz Whiz" to strengthen comprehension thinking. Another group worked on understanding the vocabulary tools of the magazine and strategies for answering text questions.
- Took our government unit test and it went home last week to share.



## Geology Learning

Students can bring in minerals, rocks, books or any other related materials from home to share at any time during this unit of study. Part of our Morning Meeting will be put aside for sharing.



Continuing to work with strengthening our place value skills. We have worked on comparing values and identifying the power of ten in our number system. This week we'll continue working with comparing, arranging and identifying patterns in values up to 100,000 place. We'll take the assessment at the end of this week.

Started our "Math Menu" as part of our routine. This menu involves 4 steps that need to be done after the daily mini-lesson and follow-up work. The math menu involves fluency and accuracy work in multiplication and division, review skill work, and strategy games.

Daily practice and review work has been differentiated for two groups of good-fit. One group is working with just-right fit practice and another group is targeting just-right and extension.



IXL math assignments have been given to students for school practice. If anyone wants to also do this at home, I'm attaching the log-in sheet and assignments given for our place value learning. This is a choice for learners to do at home to supplement their learning practice and understanding. Choice Challenge credit will be given for completing all the assignments.

## Reminder!

- ➔ Make sure your child's name is clearly labeled on lunch and snack bags/containers for help in identifying lost and found items.
- ➔ Weekly Home Reading is now a homework expectation. It is the ONLY regularly assigned homework, so any support in insuring best effort to build responsible work habits is appreciated.
- ➔ Check the Home/School folder daily. Empty out any flyers, newsletters, corrected work/tests and information for home use.



Thank you to all the families who ordered books from our Scholastic Reading Club. It replenished points for my buying power and I purchased six new books needed for the classroom. I also received 30 dollars because of your online orders to spend on books in my class wish list. In addition, the class received 10 free books and I purchased copies of the \$1 titles of the month so that every student could take home a book from the order. One of the books that 10 students took home called Restart is also a Maine Student Book Award for 2018-19. I would highly recommend it as a worthwhile family read aloud.



Students have started checking out books from our classroom to read at home for Weekly Home Reading. Student Librarians during the last three years have helped to log almost all our classroom books on a computer checkout system called Book Source. We currently have over 2,200 books logged in from our classroom library for selection to read. If your child needs some help getting books for reading at home just let me know and I'll help guide, like I do for Sit Back and Read time in our classroom.

Books checked out of the school library are going directly into book bags on Friday and are for home reading. This is to help to get books home since we have a diverse selection of genres within our classroom to keep readers focused and interested.



We have a Maine Student Book Award shelf in our classroom. New additions were added this week. **There is a link on our classroom website explaining these books.** In the spring our school librarian will have an event for students who read at least 3 of the books from this list.

In our classroom students can get choice challenge credit for reading any of these books and filling out the summary form. A Boy Called BAT, our current read aloud is on this list.

Several students and myself shared "Book Commercials" for some of the books to recommend and hook classmates.



## Word Study

Completed a Word Study lesson and contract of activities for the spelling patterns in words with the suffix ending ~ing. I discovered that everyone needed a review in this spelling pattern based on the Word Inventory given in September. So this is the whole class concept we used to model how the Word Study routine will work in our classroom.

We started our 2<sup>nd</sup> Word Study work in our good-fit groups. The groups are identified by their folder colors of red, orange and blue for organizational purposes.

- Blue group is working with long a patterns with r (r-controlled vowel words).
- Orange Group is working with the diphthong oy/oi and review of long o patterns.
- Red Group is working with long o patterns.

Each group tried sorting their words independently and then met as a group to check, correct and do a mini-lesson discussion.

It will take about a week for the students to finish their contract practice for each round of words.

At conference time in November, I will share your child's Word Study information.



**5<sup>th</sup> graders and former Room 210 citizens, Ben and Riley, came on Friday to help with the inauguration of president elect Maddison and her running mate Katie.**

All candidates came prepared with speeches and worked with best effort to win the vote. We're striving to do better than the adults in our US politics and not use any "mudslinging" in our campaigns. We've also talked about how there are many ways to show leadership within our classroom. We made the connection to Al Gore not winning his presidential campaign and how with a growth mindset attitude he went on to become a leader in environmental issues after his election loss. Like a sports game, losses in other aspects of life work to strengthen our perseverance and strategies for dealing with feelings of disappointment.



