

Ms. Dionysia's Classroom Connection

A Peek at the Week

Here are some of the activities/projects the children were engaged in this week:

- DynaMath-This week the students read a nonfiction article that connected math concepts. The children read an article titled Extreme Engineering. The children read about how university students try new ideas on a wingsuit prototype (model). After reading the article, the children conducted an experiment which required them to test two different airplane designs. They first estimated the distance the airplanes would travel. Then the groups of students tested their airplanes in the gym. After each flight, the students marked the landing spot. Using a measurement tape, the students measured how many feet their airplanes traveled. The student created a table to display the distances that airplane A and airplane B traveled. This article and experiment strengthened their measurement, data and computation skills.
- Autobiography (5 paragraph essay)- The class visited the Des Plaines Library Computer Lab and finished typing up their essays. The students were able to review their writing and make revisions.
- Hurricane Irma Service Project- This week the students had the opportunity to share information with the rest of the school about their class service project. Children were placed in groups and visited specific classrooms to present their speeches on their service project. In addition, the children had the opportunity to speak with a representative from IOCC and learn about the organization, ask questions and learn how the funds raised will be used. Please make sure to ask you child about their successful service project!!
- Buddy Time: This week during Buddy time with Mr. Chris, the students built cars out of Knex. After building, the children could test their cars in the hallway to find out their cars speed and distance. In addition, during buddy time with Ms. Bia's class, the children followed a recipe and made slime!!!

The Thieves of Ostia Novel/Ancient Rome Exploration

- Italian Peninsula-This week the students continued working on their map of the Italian Peninsula including important cities, rivers, and seas. As a class, we discussed the parts of a map (legend, compass rose, scale). In addition, the children had the opportunity to explore the globe and point out surrounding countries.
- Italian Flag-This week the students explored the history of the Italian Flag and had the opportunity to draw it. Also, the students measured their flag and calculated the perimeter and area.
- Lego STEM Challenges-Ancient Roman Architecture-This week, I challenged the children to build replicas of Ancient Roman structures. Lego STEM challenges gives students hands-on practice with science, technology, engineering, and maths skills. The students were grouped in cooperative learning groups and explored Ancient Roman Architecture. After choosing their structure the groups designed a plan and then built their structures out of Legos. When they completed their challenge, the groups described their process (talk about how you built it). In addition, the children were given research questions to form presentations.

Brain Teasers

What has hands but cannot clap?

(answer to last brain teaser-a candle)