

Newsletter 15

Happy Friday!

Science~

Inventors were the hot topic in our study of the renaissance this week. The students were presented with a short powerpoint on the most popular inventions throughout the period such as, the thermometer, pocket watch, submarine, lenses, telescope, and the toilet. It was interesting to learn about the creation of each of these items that all the students see as basic everyday items. Later in the week the students chose yet another inventor of the time period. They will be presenting on them at the start of next week. Some of the inventions or theories that were chosen were, Newtons Laws, the Copernicus theory, & Leeuwenhoek's bacteria discovery.

~ Stay tuned for pictures of their presentations next week!

Math~

Pythagorean theorem was the concept of the week! The students were introduced to the topic on Monday and worked on it throughout the week. We started our understanding by looking at the creator, Pythagoras, also known as the triangle man! The ancient Greek mathematician Pythagoras is best known for lending his name to the Pythagorean theorem. He also founded a school where students learned and discussed math and philosophy. The students took this info and dove right into the well known $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$. The Pythagorean theorem states that the sum of the squares of the two shorter sides of a right triangle equals the square of the hypotenuse, or the longest side. The students soon discovered the the side across from the right angle is what is known as the hypotenuse or the longest side. Later in the week the students were assigned activities on Khan Academy to continue and follow up on their understanding of the new concept.

Crispin~

Essays were assigned and worked on throughout the week. The students finished the second novel of the Crispin trilogy and were given three short answer questions and an essay question. The students were allowed to choose from four choices as to which essay they would like to write. Each student did a great job expressing their knowledge and understanding of the novel in their responses.

~We have decided that we will be starting the third novel of the trilogy after winter break!



Project Linus~



On Friday, the students were able to make fun no-sew fleece blankets for Project Linus. This is a national organization that provides blankets to children and teens in need. This was a fun project for the students to feel apart of something much bigger than them for kids just like them. This project involved them following a step by step procedure as well as measuring and cutting the delicate fabric. It was fun watching the students so focused and excited to make kids their own age feel a little safer with the new blankets they will receive from our class.

Art Institute~

We will be going to the Art Institute on Monday 12/ 18/17 if the weather permits. We will be taking the Metra downtown and walking to the Art Institute. At the Art Institute we will go see the holiday throne rooms as well as other famous renaissance pieces. After our visit we will be walking or taking public transportation to Yolk for lunch. Fun fact, the owner of this incredibly popular restaurant, Taki Kastanis, was also Plato Academy student! We are excited to go support a fellow Plato student and experience what hard work and dedication can do when you put your mind to it!

Reminders:

- ~ Friday (12/15) Winter Program @ The Bridge : 10 am
- ~ Monday (12/18) Art Institute
- ~Tuesday (12/19) Wonder Movie Field Trip
- ~Thursday (12/21) Half Day ~ dismissal 1:30 pm (no after care)

Hope you all stay warm this weekend,
Ms. Alexandra

"You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him find it within himself."
~Galileo