

winter break is here

#CHOOSEKIND ~

For the last two weeks the students and I have been focusing on the meaning and decision of choosing to be kind. We watched and read about the The Boy Behind the Mask and how his life relates to Auggie from *Wonder*. We also watched a short film about Charles Monroe Schulz, American cartoonist best known for his characters, Charlie Brown and Snoopy that are also apart of the comic strip, *Peanuts*. Charles Schulz is widely regarded as one of the most influential cartoonists of all time, cited as a major influence by many later cartoonists, and someone we can all relate to. In the article, *Makes a Loser into a Winner*, Charles Monroe Schulz gives us a glimpse into the struggles of growing up. Charles Monroe Schulz also known as Sparky, gives us a look into the difficulties he dealt with to get to where he is today. He reminds us, “Remember that the challenges we face in childhood will affect our lives as adults--for good.”

Inventors posters~

Throughout the week the students presented their inventors posters and were also given a new assignment that is due January 19. The students are going to be creating and inventing their own inventions! Over break I want the students to decide what’s important for the world, what is necessary? What can you do to make your life easier or the people around you with your new invention? The students need to create an invention that they think will benefit someone or something in our lives. The students must describe their invention in great details. Be very specific on the purpose of the invention. I want them to be able to explain why their invention is important and how it will change society. The students must create a model of the invention and have a step by step journal of their building and idea process.

Holiday Program~

This year at the holiday program, Plato’s theme was peace on earth! All of our students did a great job performing their songs and plays. I am extremely proud of my class’s choice of “The Christmas Truce”. This play was a great way for the students to learn about history as well as the importance of bringing kindness and peace together on such an important day that many of us celebrate.



Math/ Science

While getting ready for the holiday break, the students and I decided to make chocolate covered pretzels. This simple yet delicious treat turned into a classroom experiment. While melting the chocolate using boiling water the students saw that the chocolate was still thick, to thin out the chocolate the students chose to add water. Little did we know that the water would cause the chocolate to actually thicken. One of the students was able to explain why the chocolate hardened and that the best way to make it creamy again was by adding milk.

Once we added the milk the chocolate turned into what we liked to call, a chocolate ganoush.

~ While some of us made our delicious treats others learned to play card games. Play cards games is a great way for students to practice their math, learn how to use strategies, and overall a great way to keep our students on their toes with a bit of competitiveness. The best part about playing these games is that all students have a chance of winning and showing off their new strategies.

I hope everyone has a great holiday break!

~ See you next year, January 8, 2018~



~"Since it is so likely that (children) will meet cruel enemies, let them at least have heard of brave knights and heroic courage. Otherwise you are making their destiny not brighter but darker." --- C. S. Lewis