

## Newsletter 18

### Happy New Year!

Welcome back, Room 2 has been busy getting back into our daily routine and final stretch of our Renaissance exploration.

### Math~

This week the students received a post winter break review on all topics we have covered so far. This was given to ensure that the students are grasping and retaining all of the concepts they have learned this year. I have also given the students personalized Khan Academy assignments to support their needs and give them extra guidance on specific concepts that each of them struggle with.

We added on to our prior knowledge of inequalities this week. The students were able to take their understanding a step further and learned how to graph inequalities. They were able to make connections using the symbols they already knew with the symbols that are displayed on a inequality graph as well as plot their own indicators of which symbol represents greater than, greater than or equal to, less than, and less than or equal to.

### ~Math Scholastic:

On Thursday, the students were lucky to have a special math lesson on converting and exchanging money from different countries. The article the students read was Cuddly Cafes, where patrons dine in the company of furry friends at animal cafes around the world. The article showed the students about converting currency when traveling abroad, you must convert U.S. dollars to the currency of the nation you're visiting, or the vice versa. This also gave the students an understanding that the rate changes each day.

### Renaissance~

As for the Renaissance our timeline is to have it all finished and wrapped up with a follow up by the end of February. Our plan is to finish up the art period during this time and continue our focus on our inventions. The inventions project is looking great and students seem to really have good understanding of what it takes to build your own invention and the time and energy that goes into it. The students are keeping a inventions log of their experience throughout this process which will also be turned in with the final project on January 19.

### Crispin #3 ~

The third and final novel that is apart of the Crispin trilogy, *Crispin The End of Time* has arrived and we will be starting it on Monday. Throughout the week, we

prepared our minds for what is to come in this third and final novel and are very excited to see if our predictions come true. All the students wrote their own endings to the novel and were then shared aloud anonymously. We voted on our favorite/ most realistic and are awaiting to see if our classroom ending will match the authors.

### **MLK Day~**

On Friday, the students came in prepared to discuss some vocabulary words that relate to Dr. Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement. I had the students review these words so they were prepared to watch the movie *Selma*, which is based on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that legally desegregated the South, when discrimination was still rampant in certain areas, making it very difficult for blacks to register to vote. In 1965, an Alabama city became the battleground in the fight for suffrage. Despite violent opposition, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who is played by David Oyelowo, and his followers pressed forward on an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, and their efforts culminated in President Lyndon Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965. After the movie the students were given follow up questions and short essay questions to express their understanding of the film. We will continue our study of Dr. Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement in the upcoming week as well.

### **Reminders:**

- ~ 1/15 - No School
- ~ 1/19 - Invention Project Due
- ~ 2/14- PTO Sponsored Valentine's Day Lunch (Pajama Day)
- ~ 2/18 – Apokreatiko Glendi/Mardi Gras @ Fountain Blue Banquet
- ~ 2/19 – Presidents' Day (**No School**)

Hope you have a great weekend,  
Ms. Alexandra

**“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” ~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**