

Plato Academy: Room 9

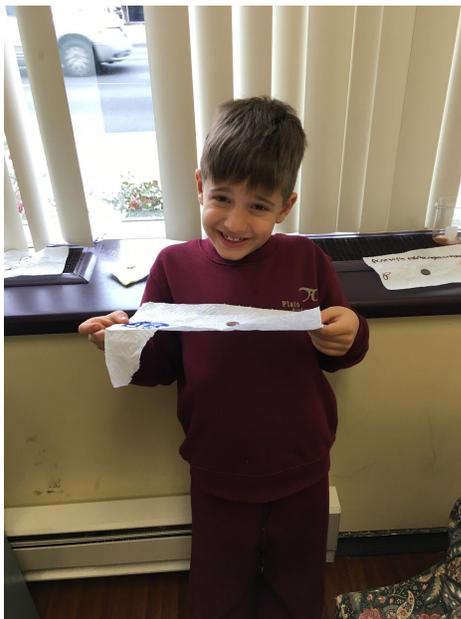
Week of 11/13/17

Classroom Journal: **“Far above the world, Planet Earth is blue, And there’s nothing I can do..” *Space Oddity*, David Bowie**

**#pledgetobekind**

**NaCl + C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>**

Pennie progress: after leaving our pennies submerged in vinegar we discovered that we may have reversed the oxidization process! After some brain-storming we decided that our pennies needed more oxygen and the best way to do so would be to take them out of the vinegar and let the oxygen in the air do some oxidizing! Some children suggested we bring a tree in our classroom, I wish :) ! Through recording our observation and changes to the experiment, because it is very important to record all the processes in case we want to look back on our work (or a famous scientist wants to try our experiment), we introduced a secret code for salt: NaCl. After that, the children were begging for the secret code for vinegar: (that one I did not remember from my chemistry 101) C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Not that this means we are going to study the periodic table but, a small example how different learning opportunities occur throughout our day. The pennies will be exposed to oxygen over our week break and the experiment will conclude after our Monday morning observations and conclusion write-up.



Together we rearranged our “word wall” so that it is in alphabetical order and in a linear format and noticed letterstrip XYZ do not have any words underneath! Maybe one will come up in *Wonder*. Which brings me to the title of our newsletter this week, a David Bowie quote leading us into “Part 2: Via”. Today with our buddies in Ms. Alexandra’s class we journaled and discoursed about why the author used this quote for Via’s chapters. What does feeling blue mean? Why can’t Via do anything about her “blue” feeling? Some children listened to *Space Oddity* and actually heard the line in the song to understand this “blue feeling”. Two new things

happened this week: whim and Jack Will. Whim was are new vocabulary word from Wonder and we had to go back and look at our character analysis of Jack Will, did he betray Auggie? Some children suggested that “We don’t know yet!” and so we decided to make note of it on our character page but put a question mark just incase the author explains a different side during Jack’s part.

During buddies with Ms. Dionysia’s class we finished our mural! Please make sure to take a look when you get a chance! The children worked really hard and paid close attention to detail and factual information about NYC (New York Cricket).





Thanksgiving Break Thinking: The children are thinking about their structure they are going to build individually and write a poem about. Their personal structure, like the statue of liberty, will be a symbol of freedom, goodness, and acceptance for all. We are excited for our upcoming project, and with the help of Mr. Foti are going to write our individual version of the New Colossus. A lot of thinking over break!

Fun family card game: Salute! (can take face cards and jokers out OR use number 10 for their numerical value)

Player #1 and #2 each pick up a card, and without looking at it, place it on their foreheads as shown below. They can see what each other has, but they do not know which card they are holding. Player #3 (who can see both cards) mentally adds the cards together and says the sum out loud. In this example, Player #1 is holding a 6 and Player #2 is holding a 10, so the sum is 16. Once Player #3 has said the sum out loud, Players #1 and #2 each try to figure out what card he is holding. So if the sum is 16, and Player #1 can see that Player #2 is holding a 10, he can perform a mental subtraction equation to figure out what he has ( $16-10=6$ ). The first player to correctly state which card they are holding keeps both cards. The player with the most cards at the end of the game wins.

Wishing a very Happy Thanksgiving to our Room 9 families!

Warmly,  
Ms. Bia and Mr. Foti