

Newsletter 8-31-18



This week the students jumped right into discussion over their summer novel, *Phantom Tollbooth*. Throughout the week the students were given the opportunity to discuss, summarize, and create a character list based from the story. While doing so we were able to see how each characters/ settings name throughout the story actually influenced who and what the character stood for. This gave us an chance to discuss other literary connections the story brings out such as, allegory, word play, conflict, and

symbolism. After defining and finding the etymology of the word allegory the students were assigned to look for movies or novels they have read that use allegory. *Allegory is a story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one.* Most of the students came back surprised to see that a majority of the Disney movies they grew up watching each had hidden meanings. This was a fun activity and also gave us an insight on what it really takes to be a good writer and creator.

Sketches~

Please come by our room to see the sketches each student created based on a conflict in the novel. The students took their knew knowledge of , man vs man, man vs nature, man vs society, and man vs self to identify the conflicts throughout the novel. They also drew their sketches with the same technique used in the images from the novel.



3D Printer~

As of this week we have officially started sketching our ideas for our 3D project with Mr. Chris' class. As our two classes collaborated we decided to create a marble run, this includes creating a ramp or track for the marbles to travel on. We will be working on this weekly for the next few months!

~ On Thursday, we worked on decoding and creating our own math codes with Ms. Dionysia's class. This activity gives the students a chance to create their own math problems and codes for their peers to solve!

Life of Pi~ As we continued our conversation of allegory later in the week, the students and I decided watch the movie Life of Pi, during and after the film we were able to discuss what the allegory of the movie was and why this film has such a deeper meaning behind each figure in the movie.

~ Please ask your child about their understanding of allegory and if you have any movies or books to share with them relating to the topic.

Hope you have a great long weekend,
Ms.Alexandra



~ “To choose doubt as a philosophy of life is akin to choosing immobility as a means of transportation.”

— **Yann Martel, Life of Pi**