

Dear Parents,

As we have done with most of the other novels we have read, we watched the Matilda movie and compared it to the book using a Venn Diagram. There were many things that occurred in both, several things were in the movie that were not part of the book, and only a few things that happened in the book that didn't occur in the movie. Some kids like the book better and some kids prefer the movie, but everyone agreed that Miss Trunchbull was awful in both.

Speaking of Miss Trunchbull...

We have inherited a (rather large) plecostomus suckerfish. Plecostomus are a group belonging to the catfish family. It is hideous looking (but in a cute way) so we named it Miss Trunchbull.

It really is a great feeling to have a group of kids *begging* you to announce the title of the next novel we will read aloud. We have already read 5 chapters of the BFG...and the kids are so invested and eager to hear more. We were relieved to find out what the initials BFG stand for and that he's the only giant in Giant Country that doesn't eat humans. Phew!

*What did the artist say to her sweetheart?
I love you with all of my art!*

We celebrated Valentine's Day by wearing pajamas, having a pancake lunch, passing out cards and gifts to friends, and by MAKING SLIME!! It was fun, messy, and an example of polymer molecules changing positions by using a process called linking!

We started reading the third book in the Zoey and Sassafras series and it appears as though something bad is happening to the water in the stream near their home. They went searching to find mayfly and caddisfly nymphs, which can only be found in clean water, but they had no luck at all. Now they are trying to figure out what is happening to the water and how to prevent it from continuing to happen.

We finished our pen pal letters this week, so we walked with Ms. Anna's class to the post office to send them to Ms. Leslie's school in Wheaton. I anticipate that the kids will ask me every single day next week if the letters have arrived from their pen pals, so we'll have to revisit our conversation about how "snail" mail works. ;o)

Notes:

- Be sure to read the Parent Notes that you receive from the office. There are many important dates and exciting events coming up.
- Please be sure your child brings weather-appropriate outerwear to school. (If your child wears boots to school, please also send a pair of gym shoes.) Also, please make sure everything is labeled with his/her initials or name.

As always, please feel free to call, email, or text me with any questions or concerns.

Have a great weekend!

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