

Dear Parents,

The big lion rides a bike to the store. Mom slept in the barn with milk. A squirrel skipped to catch the bus. These are just some of the sentences we made when we played a silly sentence game. We talked about complete sentences, which include a subject and a predicate. As we “proofread and edit” our writing, we will look for complete sentences, for uppercase letters at the beginning of our sentences, and for punctuation at the end.

The BFG has several shelves filled with jars, each one containing a dream that he has collected from Dream Country. Each jar has a hand written label with a brief explanation of the dream inside. We made our own dream jars by writing a description of a dream...first a rough draft, then a final copy after editing. Then we each painted a paper jar with watercolors. After the paint dried, we added the label to the jar just like the BFG does. Some of our dreams are phizzwizards and some are trogglehumpers, and they all are really clever and creative.

Zoey (from Zoey and Sassafras: Merhorses and Bubbles) is trying to figure out why there aren't any magical creatures living in the stream. There's something wrong with the water...but what? When she tested the pH level in the stream water, something didn't seem right. We conducted a similar experiment using pH testing strips to test the pH level of 5 liquids...tap water, soapy water, lemon juice, vinegar, and milk. First we wrote the pH number that we thought each liquid would have, then we tested the liquids and recorded the results.

The BFG is 24 feet tall, and we wanted to get a better idea of just how tall that is. We know that a ruler is 1 foot, so we lined up 24 of them in the hallway. Then we figured out that our tape measures are 5 rulers long, so that means they are 5 feet, which also is 60 inches. Five tape measures was 1 foot more than 24 feet. We also figured out that if 6 ½ Room 4 kids lay down head to toe, we'd add up to 24 feet. Wow...The BFG is tall!

Ms. Demetria, Mr. Dan, and Ms. Lauren from the National Hellenic Museum came to see us this week. We acted out the stories of Jason and the Argonauts, Theseus and the Minotaur, and Bouboulina. What a fun way to learn about Greek history, mythology, and legends!

Although the “official” scores haven't been announced yet, I'm certain that we did not make the Matific Competition Leaderboard. I'm not disappointed

though, because what I witnessed is more important and impressive than any amount of points...

- I saw kids working together toward a common goal.
- I saw kids helping each other login and navigate the map to find specific games.
- I saw kids teaching other how to play the games and suggesting different strategies.
- I heard kids cheering for each other and giving each other high fives/fist bumps.
- I saw kids that were excited to practice math skills.
- I witnessed kids acknowledge disappointment, embrace it, and use it to make them stronger.

The kids in Room 4 ARE champions...and we will celebrate their effort, enthusiasm, and accomplishments by having a special ice cream treat next week!!

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.
- Once again, we are in need of a few smooth, clear jars (and lids) for an art project.

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

Have a great weekend!

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