Panda Room Newsletter

4/8-4/12

Hey Panda families,

I hope everyone had a pleasant weekend! This will be a shorter newsletter as we are still working on the same standards as last week. I do want to mention a couple things though. First, I want to thank every single parent for being ultra-cool and speedy with your replies to the Solar Eclipse email. I really wanted the Pandas to be able to participate in such a cool event and because of you it was able to happen. I truly feel lucky to have some of the best parents in the world supporting the classroom. The second announcement I want to make is that we are on stage this whole week. We will be performing new songs, and the students have created cool skits about perseverance that we will perform all week. Finally, I want to let everyone know that I will not be here on Thursday (4/11), I have yet another training session for LETRS. I believe there is only 1 more time I will be gone this year for the training, so I appreciate your patience with all this. I genuinely enjoy spending time with and teaching the Pandas, so being out of the classroom so much this year is not my ideal way of doing things.

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Reading

For reading the next couple weeks we will be returning our focus to sequencing. It is something we touched on at the beginning of the year and now we are going to use it as our main standard for our robotic project. After we sequence the events of the story, we chart a specific behavior (scared, destructive, etc.) of the main character on a BOTG (Behavior Over Time Graph). This will help us build our skills up for our narrative robotics project.

Math

The Pandas will continue their work with geometry. The Pandas will be categorizing shapes, talking about different angles, and working with 3D shapes. This week they will compose a cube out of marshmellows and toothpicks. This is a fun unit of math as it teaches them about concepts, seen in 3rd grade, while being accessible to students of all skill levels.

Writing

We are continuing our work on our final writing project. Most of the Pandas have finished their rough draft and are onto their final draft. From there, they will sequence the events out and then map them on a grid. This will lead to programming our robots to help us tell our story. In Fundations we will be working with R-controlled vowels and general spelling.