



## **Panda Room Newsletter**

**11/18-11/22**

Hey Panda families,

Hope everyone had a pleasant weekend. I want to tell you about a couple things we have cooking up in the Panda Room currently. The first is that our first project is underway. The driving question is: How can we use math tools to help us create art and games? The Pandas are working with Ms. Valerie (our wonderful art teacher), using math tools to create unique and exciting pieces of art. The Puffins and the Pandas are doing this project in tandem so that there is some symmetry between the classrooms. The Pandas have also started the process for an upcoming field trip. We will be going to the Desert Museum sometime in March. For parents that want to volunteer as chaperones, I will give you more information about it as we get closer to the event. I have 2 final announcements, the first is that Movie Night is this Friday, Borton voted on watching Despicable Me 4. The last announcement is that there will only be 3 days of school next week. We will be out of session Thursday and Friday to honor Thanksgiving. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Mr. Zane, 520-730-1173, [zane.huff@tusd1.org](mailto:zane.huff@tusd1.org)

## **Reading**

For reading this week we are focusing on the author's purpose. We are analyzing books and reasoning why the author decided to write that book, story, etc. The 3 major categories in this standard are: Persuasive, Informational, and Entertainment. We will also be reading a fairy tale (The Magic Fish) and creating a Behavior Over Time Graph (BOTG) to track how the characters interact. The Puffins will be doing the same thing, and we will then compare our graphs to theirs to see how each class interpreted the story.

## **Math**

In math this week, we will be continuing our work with place value. This week we are developing a couple of new strategies. The first strategy is using compensation to solve a math problem, which is an advanced strategy. We will also be working on making a ten to simplify equations and solve them efficiently. I have to say, the Pandas this year are incredible mathematicians and take to new strategies like a duck to water. Very impressive stuff!

## **Writing/Science**

In Foundations this week we will be learning about multisyllabic spelling and counting the syllables in words. This includes how syllables can affect how sounds are made and which letters to use to make certain sounds. For example; In 1 syllable words that end with an /ik/ sound, like pick, stick, brick, use the -ick spelling. However, when the word is 2 syllables, as in public, you use the -ic spelling for that same /ik/ sound. We are still waiting for our next science kits from the district, but as soon as we get them, we will be unboxing them and then doing some super fun experiments!