



" SWIMMING WITH THE SHARKS "
NEWSLETTER
1-9-09

Happy New Year! Oh, it is good to be back. Here is what we explored this week.

Reading: Each child is researching an ocean creature. We have used various items such as, books, internet, and movies to locate facts. Everyone has worked very hard this week and has obtained good information about their ocean creature. Ask your jr. oceanographer what creature they are researching.

Spelling: Short u.

Word Wall Work: line, ride, sale, sing, & those

Handwriting: Ww and Xx

Writer's Workshop: The class completed two lessons in their WriteTraits books focusing on organization. The first lesson addressed starting our writing off with a "bang" so our audience is interested in our writing. The second lesson focused on telling one story at a time or staying on topic. The children enjoy the pages where Scribbles the octopus has a question that they have to help solve. The class also shared a paragraph about one thing they did over winter break. It sounds like a good time was had by all.

Math: We continued working on components of Geometry. The students completed lessons on symmetry and identifying shapes and solid figures by their attributes. We also played a game involving 3 rounds of flashcards with basic addition facts on them. We are doing an experiment to see if this game or extra practice improves our scores on our 1 minute and 27 second math drills. We are striving for "Fact Power!"

Science: Shark Packet (Very cool information)

Odds & Ends:

- My heartfelt thanks to our Shark Parent volunteers that came in to do internet research with our jr. oceanographers. Thank you to **Natalie's dad, Hailey's mom, & Ethan's mom** for sharing their time.
- Our Principal Award goes to **Georgia** this week! She always does her best and is super kind and thoughtful.
- **IMPORTANT INFORMATION!** Please note on your January Special Schedule, I marked the time of our Ocean Program on 1-22-09 as 6:15. The actual start time is 6:45. I apologize for the confusion.

Upcoming Events

- 1-12-09 Red Reading Log is due. Remember your child must read a minimum of 75 minutes per week.
- 1-12-09 Pizza and Bingo Family Night forms are due
- 1-14-09 Culver's Night-Enjoy a delicious meal and help support WG
- 1-16-09 No School: Teachers' Institute Day
- 1-19-09 No School: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
- 1-20-09 Media Center Day-Remember to bring in your Media Center Books
- 1-20-09 Children may bring in their Ocean Dioramas to school
- 1-22-09 Ocean Program in the Gym at **6:45**
- 1-23-09 Pizza and Bingo Family Night
- 1-28-09 Jimmy John's Night

Have a terrific Weekend!