

November 6, 2020

Upcoming Dates...

Wednesday, November 25th - early dismissal

Thursday, November 26—Monday, November 30th - Thanksgiving break



The joy of TLC students really shines this week!

Things are really shaping up in the Novice room! We have started our geometry unit, and we are really enjoying learning about all the different kinds of shapes and using our new fancy math vocabulary to describe them. Dana's math group has been building 2D shapes on geoboards, drawing shapes, and pulling shapes from the magic bag. It's so much fun to learn to identify shapes not just with our eyes but with our sense of touch as well. Sarah's math group has been reviewing these shapes while learning about the defining attributes of each shape. We got to solve some shape riddles and then create some of our own. Using words like parallel, vertices, and equal to gives hints about what makes each shape was a challenge, but we were up to it!



In Theme, we have begun delving into history by learning about the differences between the past and the present. We are just beginning to understand how different things were long ago. The upcoming holiday of Thanksgiving has given us the opportunity to look at what life was like long ago for the Pilgrims and Native Americans. We have exciting projects planned that include everything from experimenting with how ships like the Mayflower stay afloat to exploring the kinds of agricultural tools the Native Americans used when farming!



NOVICES

PLAYERS

The Players finished their research projects on the wildlife of French Creek and were so excited to share their information with their classmates! The Mathematical Animals are continuing to practice multi-digit subtraction while the Mathical Creatures have moved on to multiplication. We've continued to enjoy our Wild Wednesday outdoor time- we learned a few strategies for estimating the height of trees and put our math skills to the test at Shadybrook Park this week!



Temperatures and leaves may be falling outside, but inside the Apprentice room, our excitement just keeps going up! One of our Lit Circle groups, *Voyage of the Frog*, finished their book and are brainstorming lots of awesome ideas for their final project. In Math, we're taking on ever-larger and more difficult division problems. One of the groups, the Mathematics, even used what we knew to figure out some strategies for dividing mixed numbers! Without question, though, the most exciting recent event in the past few weeks has been our election for class president! After weeks of coming up with our

classroom issues, forming and designing parties, debating, and campaigning, we finally had our general election between our three final candidates. And after a very tight election, our new president is... Ms. Lia Hyatt! She ran primarily on a platform of saving money for the school while also improving the lives of individual students. We finished our Election Theme by having our former Apprentice Class President, Mr. Ossian Glenn, video call in to chat with us and demonstrate a peaceful transition of power. Afterwards, Lia took the oath of office and became officially sworn in as our class president. Everyone reflected on all the fun we've had and things we've learned throughout this Theme, and we're very excited to get started on our next one (voted on by the students): Chemistry and Change!



APPRENTICES

The Voyagers have been really excited about the elections this week, both in school and nationally. In class, the Voyagers formed two different parties based on issues in the school that they feel need to be addressed. Maddy and Gus emerged as winners of last week's primary. This week those two squared off in our final debate. On Wednesday, Gus was voted Class President. The role of president wasn't the only position on the ballot though. Rose won the position of Community Leader. We're excited to see how our government officials work together to improve our school and the greater Meadville community.



In literacy, the Voyagers have spent the week wrapping up final projects. They planned a role-playing game, an escape room, dioramas, and comic strips.

In math the Quarantines spent the week exploring fraction challenges that deal with a variety of fraction operations. We even learned about the Rhind Papyrus, and tried writing fractions as the ancient Egyptians did. The Bubble Guppy group began a new unit on functions. This week they have been making connections between tables, equations, and graphs. The Die Mense group took a quiz on linear equations and inequalities earlier in the week and are now on to solving systems of equations. We began the unit by using pictures, equations and intuition to answer riddles about farm animals and vehicles.

In Writing Workshop, the Voyagers have been continuing their work with prefixes, suffixes, and Latin and Greek roots. The Quarantines and Bubble Guppies took part in several competitions in which they formed words from the prefixes, suffixes, and roots we've been looking at. The students outdid themselves with their efforts! The Die Mense have been planning lessons and games that teach comma rules. The Voyagers all took part in their "Gramma(r)" game this morning! What a fun way to learn the very challenging skill of using commas correctly!!

Stay tuned for more updates in a few weeks to see what this amazing group of students are up to!

