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# Room 102 Report

February 10, 2017



## February Kindness Challenge

Is your child participating in the February Kindness Challenge? Are they working on being kind at home and in the community? This week we spent some time being "kind" to our classroom by organizing the classroom library, cleaning up the indoor recess games & math manipulatives, organizing the supplies at the writing table, and cleaning out our book boxes and supply boxes. We also discussed some of the more difficult Kindness Challenge tasks including sitting by someone new at lunch and making a new friend at recess. It is easy to smile and draw pictures but you have to be brave to try something (someone) new. ***Each kindness makes the world a little better.*** That's what we learned from the book, *Each Kindness*, by Jaqueline Woodson [Winner of a Coretta Scott King Honor and the Jane Addams Peace Award!] Chloe and her friends won't play with the new girl, Maya. Every time Maya tries to join Chloe and her friends, they reject her. Eventually, Maya stops coming to school. When Chloe's teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, Chloe is stung by the lost opportunity for friendship, and thinks about how much better it could have been if she'd shown a little kindness toward Maya. Ask your child about his/her reactions to this story!

## Literacy/Language Arts

This week we combined English Language Arts and Social Studies. The students transformed into researchers this week and we couldn't be more proud of their effort and achievement. The second graders used text (printed and online) to research Mexico's geography, economy, and culture. As a class we developed questions and keywords to help guide our research on Mexico. Individually students then used text features like table of contents, index, bold words, glossary, and captions to locate the necessary information. During Guided Reading/Daily 5 we reviewed short and long vowel patterns, as well as, continued to write our friendly letters and address envelopes.

## *Social Studies-*

Mexico was our focus this week and will continue to be our destination for another week. Students completed a map of Mexico complete with capital city, surrounding bodies of water, and the Yucatan Peninsula. Ask your child what is so interesting about the Yucatan Peninsula. Students also made a flag of Mexico and discussed the meaning of the colors and symbols. Heritage project information and "dolls" (file folder cut-outs) went home on Friday. This is an at-home project due back to school in late March. Please look through your child's folder (if you have not already) to find specific information about this project. Let us know if you have any questions.

## Math

This week we worked on adding collections of coins and using dollar and cent notation (\$0.37). Please assist your child in working with coins at home (if needed). During this unit we will also work on solving number stories involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies. A number of children continue to mix up coins and values - we encourage working with coins at home!

## February Birthdays



Zaid - 11<sup>th</sup>

## Notes & Reminders:

Feb 17<sup>th</sup> - End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester

-Family BINGO Night

Feb 20<sup>th</sup> - No school, Presidents' Day

Feb 24<sup>th</sup> - Report Cards distributed

A message from the PTA:

We need pictures for the yearbook! If you have any pictures you'd like to see in the yearbook, please share them with Mr. Michalski, at the email address

[hspta.yearbook@gmail.com](mailto:hspta.yearbook@gmail.com)

**Spring Conferences** are scheduled for March 2 & March 8 from 4-8PM. These conferences are not for all students. If we would like to discuss your child's progress during a conference you will receive an email from us in the next few days. As always please let us know if you have any questions.

**Students may bring valentines to pass out on the 14th. You must have one for each member of our class if you do. If needed, extra class lists are available on our classroom Weebly.**