

SPALDING

OCTOBER 15, 2010

Reader's Workshop

We are beginning the unit of study titled "Readers Use Strategies to Figure Out Words". The goals of this unit are for student to know how to use a variety of print strategies and use them with flexibility; be sure their reading makes sense; self-correct; develop an ear for fluent reading and have ways of making their own reading fluent; know how to choose books that support their work with print.

READING AT HOME

Please continue to read with your child at home. As the guided reading groups get up and running, your child will be bringing books home to read to you. Please encourage a fun, relaxing and enjoyable reading time everyday - even before the books come home. Your child will also benefit from practicing to read high frequency words. The word were in the packet given out at the curriculum night. I have sent home word work activities that will support your child's reading and writing. I encourage you to work on these activities with your child. Thank you for all you do!!



Visiting Illustrator

Our class was visited by Gina Perry a local illustrator. She shared the process she uses to illustrate books such as *Dirty Gertie* and *Vote for the Zoo*. Gina uses sketches, paint, computer and pencil to create pictures that are used in published books. Students in class have been working on telling stories in illustrations. Students were taught to decide on a topic, envision it, and then record that meaning on a page with drawings that are representational. In addition students have

been taught to draw even hard to make ideas. Students were encouraged not to be held back by not being able to draw exactly what they are thinking but instead to draw the best they can and keep going. Finally, the kids have been working on using both pictures and words like famous author/illustrators. Students are being nudged and encouraged to act as authors who write pictures and words.



CONFERENCES will be held during the week of November 15th through November 18th. I will be sending home a sign up sheet next week for times that will work into your schedule.



MR. CARON CHALLENGE will be held next Tuesday October 26th. Our class is working on teamwork through challenges that require us to talk and listen. Please pack your child sneakers and boot.

LIBRARY NOTICE

This year the Library Media Center seems to be suffering from a plague of wet books being returned to us. We have had almost a dozen so far this year and that is way too many! Parents, please insist that your student always carry their library books in a plastic bag inside their backpack. Water bottles leak easily and once a book is saturated, you will be billed for its replacement cost. We do our best to try to dry them out, but lately they have been beyond repair. THANK YOU !!